



WRESTLING

CRUSHER AND BRUISER'S
Inside BLOODY SWEEP TO THE TITLE

FEBRUARY 1976

47727 **K** 75c

Wrestling

THE NIGHT
ANDRE THE GIANT
HAD TO BE SAVED
FROM ERNIE LADD!



REVEALED
FOR THE
FIRST
TIME--



WHY
CHIEF JAY
STRONGBOW
LEFT THE W.W.W.F.



POWERFUL MUSCLES FAST!!!



FASTEST MUSCLE BUILDING SYSTEM KNOWN TO MAN!

Muscle Builders can add 10" of steel-like muscles to your chest, 6" to your arms, and can melt 12" from your waist.

GAINS UP TO ½" OF MUSCLE PER DAY!

With our **HALF INCH A DAY SYSTEM**, you can actually gain up to ½ inch of muscle per day. For a limited time, this fantastic system is being offered as a **FREE BONUS** with Muscle Builders.

IN JUST A FEW WEEKS, YOU CAN BE A POWERHOUSE OF MUSCLE!

Regardless of your age, height, or present build, you can build a fabulous body. If you're thin and underweight, you'll be amazed at how quickly slabs of muscle will appear. If you're overweight, you can replace that fat with rock hard muscle and melt inches off your waist.

Your health and self-confidence will improve as you build a powerful, muscular body. Whatever you look like today, we can improve on it. You'll be astonished at how quickly muscles will appear. We guarantee it!!!

ASTONISH YOUR FRIENDS!!!

In just weeks, you'll astonish your friends as your muscles grow and develop. Men will respect you and girls will admire your new masculine build. In just a few minutes a day, you can build a powerful, muscular body — so impressive that you will command respect and attention from everyone you come in contact with. Regardless of your present build, we can and will build you a powerful body — a body **RIPPLING WITH MUSCLES**.

ARMS —

You can build big, powerful arms that command respect! We'll add inches of rock-hard muscle to your biceps and triceps. Your arms will be alive with muscle.

CHEST —

Everyone notices a massive chest that looks like its bursting through a shirt. A big chest has always been the sign of a powerful man. How big do you want your chest to be — 47, 48, 50 inches or more?

BACK —

You can have the kind of broad back that attracts immediate attention. With a power-packed muscular back, you can be the center of female attention.

SHOULDERS —

Nothing is more impressive than wide, rugged shoulders. You can fill your jackets and shirts with He-Man shoulders. Broad shoulders make you stand out in any crowd.

LEGS —

Your legs are the seat of your strength and athletic ability. You can have strong, panther-like legs that will make you a star in any sport!

ABDOMEN —

How would you like a trim abdomen hard enough to take any punch with no pain? You can have a muscular, impressive abdomen that protects against injury.

HERE'S WHAT OTHERS SAY:

Your course is great! In just 4 weeks I've gained 4½ inches on my chest and 2 inches on my arms.

J. Stroy, Ohio

I've gained a lot of muscle since I started your course. My arms are up to 17½". My chest is now up to 48½".

R. Ott, New York

**MUSCLE BUILDERS, Dept 11862
232 W. Front St., Napoleon, OH 43545**

Rush me all that free muscle-building information in a plain wrapper so I can build powerful muscles fast. I am enclosing 25¢ to help cover postage and handling costs. I am under no obligation

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

The secret of teaching yourself music



It's just organized common sense, says this 75-year-old home-study school. Their step-by-step word-and-picture instructions take the mystery out of learning to play the piano, the guitar, or the spinet organ.

It may seem odd at first—the idea of teaching yourself music. You might think you need a private teacher at \$4 to \$10 an hour to stand beside you and explain everything you should do—and tell you when you've made a mistake.

But surprising as it seems, you need no such thing. Thousands of people have taught themselves to play with the lessons we give by mail. And you can too.

The secret lies in the step-by-step way our lessons teach you. Starting from scratch, they show you with simple words and pictures exactly what to do. You learn to play correctly—by note, from sheet music. Without gimmicks.

But how do you know you're doing it right? Easy. A lot of the tunes you'll practice first are simple songs you've heard before. And since you already know how they're supposed to sound, you can tell right away when you've "got them right."

By the time you go on to more advanced pieces, you'll be able to tell if your notes and timing are right, even without ever having heard the songs before. Sooner than you might think possible, you'll be able to play different kinds of music: ballads, old favorites, show tunes, or hymns.

Convenient and Economical

You learn in your spare time, in the privacy and convenience of your own home. There's no one standing over you to make

you nervous. And because you teach yourself, you set your own pace.

And you'll be delighted to discover how economical it is. The cost comes to less than you'd have to pay a private teacher.

There Are So Many Rewards

How effective are the lessons? Ask Mrs. Norman Johanson, one of our recent graduates. "My daughter," writes Mrs. Johanson, "has taken lessons for 8 years from a private teacher, and now she asks me questions about some of her lessons. How very proud I feel when she says to friends, 'You just have to hear my Mom play!'"

Others also enjoy her playing, Mrs. Johanson reports. She plays for herself to relax after a trying day, and for her husband when he's tired. She also plays for friends when she goes to parties. "In a sentence," she says, "it's the most soul-satisfying thing that has ever happened to me."

Mail Coupon Today

If you'd like to learn more about this convenient, pleasant way to teach yourself music, send for our free booklet "Be Your Own Music Teacher." With it, we'll include a free "Note-Finder."

There's no obligation. Just mail the coupon today to U.S. SCHOOL OF MUSIC. A Home Study School Since 1898.



494



U.S. School of Music.

"Home Study School Since 1898."

Studio 02-601

417 South Dearborn Street,
Chicago, Illinois 60605

I'm interested in learning to play the instrument checked below. Please send me, FREE, your illustrated booklet "Be Your Own Music Teacher." Also include your free "Note-Finder." I am under no obligation. The instrument I would like to play is (check only one):

- ☐ Piano ☐ Guitar (pick style)
☐ Spinet Organ (2 keyboards)

Mr. _____ Age _____
Mrs. _____
Miss _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Accredited Member National Home Study Council

Inside Wrestling

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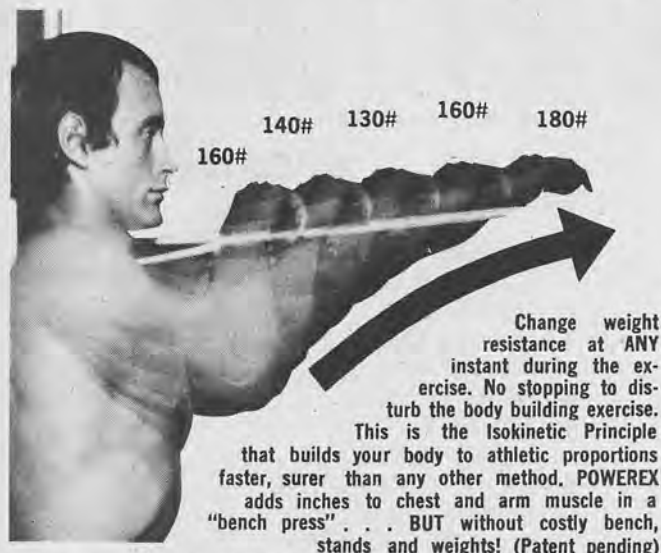
COVER PHOTOS BY

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INSIDE WRESTLING is published monthly by T.V. Sports Inc., Box 58, Rockville Centre, NY 11571. Single copy price 75¢; annual subscription rate \$9. Not responsible for loss or non-return of unsolicited articles or photographs, which will not be returned unless accompanied by a self-addressed envelope bearing the proper amount of postage. No part of this magazine can be reproduced without written permission of the publisher. All rights reserved.

ISOKINETICS Will Build Your Muscles Faster...or you get your money right back!



This is the Isokinetic Principle that builds your body to athletic proportions faster, surer than any other method. POWEREX adds inches to chest and arm muscle in a "bench press" . . . BUT without costly benches and weights! (Patent pending)

HERE'S RESULTS FAST — SURE — PROOF

A group of researchers stated that all published research matching isokinetics with weight lifting and isometrics showed that isokinetics is greatly superior for muscle building.

● "After four weeks of using the exerciser, my strength has doubled thanks to you." —J Castillo, AK.

● "I'm beginning to look like I did when I got out of the Marine Corps." —Don C., PA.

● "In just 6 weeks, I put 2" on my arms, 3" on my chest, 2" on my thighs, and gained 22 lbs." —N.D.

● "In complete honesty, I think it is a great exercise program . . . the best one on the market!!!!" —Dave Fuss, IL.

● "You just aren't another rip-off company. You back what you say." —T Roeklein, WI.

● "I've averaged from 2-3" on my legs, arms, and chest—I'm glad that I did invest the money." —Richard Ozer, MT.

● "Enclosed is my money order (for a new Powerex). I know how good it is. I had one and I lost it. I am in several sports and cannot win without Powerex. It is the greatest!" —G Scott, Canada.

● "Arms increased 2½", chest 3", decreased waist 2", and gained 20 lbs. —look and feel a lot better!" —Joseph Moreno, CA.

● "I used to be a singles man — this season I was a home run hitter, and I credit Powerex with this." —T J, AL.

● "The results are just FANTASTIC!" —Richard Lynn, MN.

ILLUSTRATED WALL CHART COURSES

POWEREX is safe, and light — under two pounds. POWEREX is compact, quick and easy to use, anytime, anywhere. At no extra cost, you also get a big 20 x 28-inch wall chart with illustrations and instructions. Several courses are described . . . for increased strength, bigger muscles, or turning fat into muscle. One course takes only 15 minutes a week.



THIS IS OUR UNCONDITIONAL MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

POWEREX must bring you results. Try it for 14 days. If you are not satisfied with your POWEREX for any reason whatsoever just send it back for an immediate full refund of your money. No questions . . . no delays! We want you to be satisfied! AND in addition, we guarantee all parts and workmanship for one full year from date of purchase!

POWEREX: Rm. L-16 5511 Ekwil Santa Barbara, CA 93111

Scientific Test PROVES Isokinetics

- 166% Better Than Weights
 - 390% Better Than Isometrics
- ### For Putting Muscle on YOU!

Isokinetics is now proved superior to weight training for building your strength, body and explosive power . . . faster, more effectively than any other method.

A leading medical journal published the scientific experiments of recognized researchers. Average peak strength improvement after only 8 weeks for each type of exercise was:

Isokinetics 47.2%
Weight Training . . . 28.6%
Isometrics 12.1%

During each Isokinetic exercise, you continually change the "weight" to the amount that your muscles need for fastest maximum development . . . without stopping. Until recently the only Isokinetic exercisers available were complicated machines costing from \$120 to over \$4000. But NOW, A NEW invention, amazing in its beautiful simplicity, puts Isokinetic muscle building within your reach for only a few dollars.

POWEREX — ISOKINETICS

The invention is POWEREX — an Isokinetic exerciser designed to give you the ultimate benefits of muscle strength, and explosive power faster than ever. And, as you know, with this comes the added benefits of confidence, and the outgoing personality that enables you to get along well with others of both sexes.

POWEREX is going to do all this for you thru the following ISOKINETIC PRINCIPLES:

- (1) **POWEREX** builds your muscles through their full range of movement. It works every small muscle fiber to its utmost. Not the grunt-and-groan partial static results of an Isometric gadget, but the total dynamic power of Isokinetics.
- (2) **POWEREX** has the exclusive **CONTROL LEVERS**. You instantly and smoothly change the amount of "weight" working for you, to the maximum your muscles can handle . . . from zero to hundreds of pounds, quickly building your body into a classic, powerful machine!

LOW COST — ORDER NOW

The best part is POWEREX costs you only \$13.95. For about 1/10th the cost of the next isokinetic exerciser on the market, the benefits of isokinetic muscle building are yours!

So don't wait another moment . . . fill out the coupon, write your check or money order, and get it in the mail now. The sooner you do, the sooner you receive your POWEREX and start the isokinetic way to a muscular body and dynamic power!

ORDER ON 14 DAY TRIAL

POWEREX, Rm. L-16
5511 Ekwil, Santa Barbara, CA 93111

Please Rush me my Powerex isokinetic exerciser and wall chart of exercises. I enclose ☐ check or ☐ money order for \$13.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling (total \$14.95). No COD's. (California residents please add 84¢ sales tax.) I understand that, for any reason whatsoever, I may return my Powerex and chart within 14 days of receipt for a full refund of my \$14.95—no questions asked.

Name

Address

City State Zip

Foreign orders to: Myers Enterprises, Inc.
P. O. Box 1311, Long Beach, CA. 90801, USA

OFFICIAL WRESTLING RATINGS

WORLD WIDE WRESTLING FEDERATION

CHAMPION: BRUNO SAMMARTINO

- 1—BILLY GRAHAM
- 2—IVAN KOLOFF
- 3—ERNIE LADD
- 4—BUGSY MCGRAW
- 5—IVAN PUTSKI
- 6—SPIROS ARION
- 7—WALDO VON ERICH
- 8—HAYSTACKS CALHOUN
- 9—KEVIN SULLIVAN
- 10—CRUSHER BLACKWELL

AMERICAN WRESTLING ASSOCIATION

CHAMPION: VERNE GAGNE

- 1—OX BAKER
- 2—BARON VON RASCHKE
- 3—BILLY ROBINSON
- 4—NICK BOCKWINKLE
- 5—PAMPERO FIRPO
- 6—BRUISER
- 7—CRUSHER
- 8—JOHN VALIANT
- 9—JIM VALIANT
- 10—JACQUES GOULET

MOST POPULAR WRESTLERS

- 1—DUSTY RHODES
- 2—IVAN PUTSKI
- 3—BRUNO SAMMARTINO
- 4—MIL MASCARAS
- 5—MR. WRESTLING II
- 6—ANDRE THE GIANT
- 7—CHIEF JAY STRONGBOW
- 8—BOBO BRAZIL
- 9—WAHOO MCDANIEL
- 10—JOSE LOTHARIO

NATIONAL WRESTLING ALLIANCE

CHAMPION: JACK BRISCO

- 1—HARLEY RACE
- 2—TERRY FUNK
- 3—SHOEHI BABA
- 4—PAUL JONES
- 5—DORY FUNK JR.
- 6—THE SHEIK
- 7—DUSTY RHODES
- 8—MOONDOG MAYNE
- 9—JERRY LAWLER
- 10—MR. WRESTLING II

TAG TEAMS

- 1—THE BLACKJACKS
- 2—BRUISER & CRUSHER
- 3—THE ANDERSON BROTHERS
- 4—CYCLONE & OMAR NEGRO
- 5—MR. WRESTLING I & MR. WRESTLING II
- 6—THE INFERNO
- 7—TONY PARISI & LOUIS CERDAN
- 8—RAY STEVENS & NICK BOCKWINKLE
- 9—THE VALIANT BROTHERS
- 10—PAT PATTERSON & PEDRO MORALES

WOMEN

CHAMPION: FABULOUS MOOLAH

- 1—VICKI WILLIAMS
- 2—SUSAN GREEN
- 3—JOYCE GRABLE
- 4—DONNA CHRISTENELLO
- 5—LEILANA KAI
- 6—KITTY ADAMS
- 7—BELLE STARR
- 8—SUSAN SEXTON
- 9—DOTTY DOWNS
- 10—SHEILA SHEPPARD



IVAN PUTSKI



TERRY FUNK



SUSAN SEXTON



JOHN VALIANT

IMPOSSIBLE?

"Every successful bodybuilder has got to use the most advanced bodybuilding methods available—UNIVERSAL BODYBUILDING offers the best! Using UNIVERSAL methods, I have made excellent gains!"

Brian Eastman

NOT
FOR
THE
SUPER

BODYBUILDING SYSTEM!

**BE BETTER THAN THE BEST,
BE DYNAMIC!**



AFTER

BEFORE

**INSTANTLY -
YOUR MUSCLES
WILL BEGIN
TO GROW!**

MOST MEN NEVER REALIZE THEIR POTENTIAL FOR MUSCULARITY. Why? Probably because they've never come across or taken advantage of a training program quite like the one we offer here at UNIVERSAL BODYBUILDING. Our course has the ULTIMATE MASTERPLAN for TOTAL BODY DEVELOPMENT!

Very few men are satisfied with the way they look at present. They know themselves that they wouldn't mind having a REALLY MASCULINE BODY — one that will "turn on" the girls and make the guys envious.

WITH UNIVERSAL METHODS, YOU CAN BREAK OUT OF YOUR "OLD" SELF, AND TRANSFORM YOUR BODY INTO AN ATTENTION-GETTER!!! WE GUARANTEE TO IMPROVE YOUR BODY FAR BEYOND WHAT YOU'VE EVER BELIEVED POSSIBLE! We have perfected bodybuilding training techniques to the extreme, so that we can offer you the fastest gains possible. If you're thin and underweight, you'll be astonished at how quickly muscles appear. If you're overweight, we can help you to trim down the fat and replace it with rock-hard muscle. We'll tone up your abdominal area, and show you how to obtain a well-defined and impressive waist.

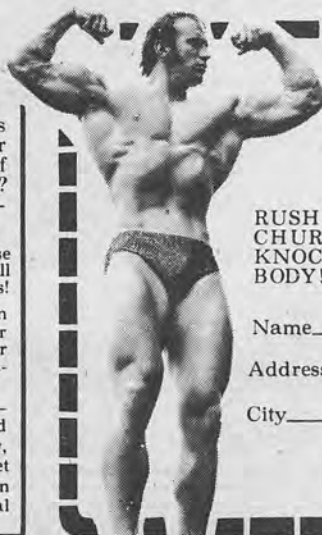
Add 2 or 3 inches to your arms, 4 or 5 inches to your chest — your rewards will be in direct proportion to your effort and accomplishments — nobody sets a limit to your success.

In the time it takes to complete this 12 lesson course, we can guarantee you a muscular foundation fantastic enough to be developed to your fullest potential!!! You can go far beyond mere "improvement" with the Advanced Training Techniques included in this course. We can give you the firm, rippling, muscular body of a physique star!!! Send in for our FREE COLORFUL BROCHURES TODAY (fantastic information about our course — loaded with unbelievable photographs). You won't regret it!!!

BE GREAT-BE SOMEBODY SPECIAL!

Improve your health, self-confidence and your outlook on life as you become more muscular. Regardless of your age, height or present build, we'll help you build a fabulous body. Thousands of people have taken this course with fantastic results — why not you? Whatever you look like today, we can improve on it. We guarantee it!!!

- ☐ **ARMS** — Develop big, powerful arms—the kind girls love to be held in! Command respect from everyone you meet!
- ☐ **CHEST** — Is your chest sunken and unimpressive? No more! It's easy to build a massive chest. You can measure 45, 47, or even 50 inches!
- ☐ **BACK** — Develop your upper back, and get that outstanding "V-Shape!" Often within one week you'll be able to see that wedge formation begin to take shape — it's a real attention-getter!
- ☐ **SHOULDERS** — Get rid of those puny shoulders! Instead, fill your shirts with bulging muscles!
- ☐ **LEGS** — Put some muscle on those spindly legs! Muscular legs will give you extra power like you've never dreamed possible!
- ☐ **ABDOMEN** — Trim and hard — that's the way your abs should look. Get rid of your pot-belly, improve your digestion, and get that washboard waist—all when you develop those abdominal muscles!



UNIVERSAL
BODYBUILDING
Box 485, Dept VI
Dearborn, Michigan 48121

FREE!

RUSH me those FREE COLORFUL BROCHURES TODAY! I want to be able to KNOCK 'EM DEAD with a FABULOUS BODY!!!

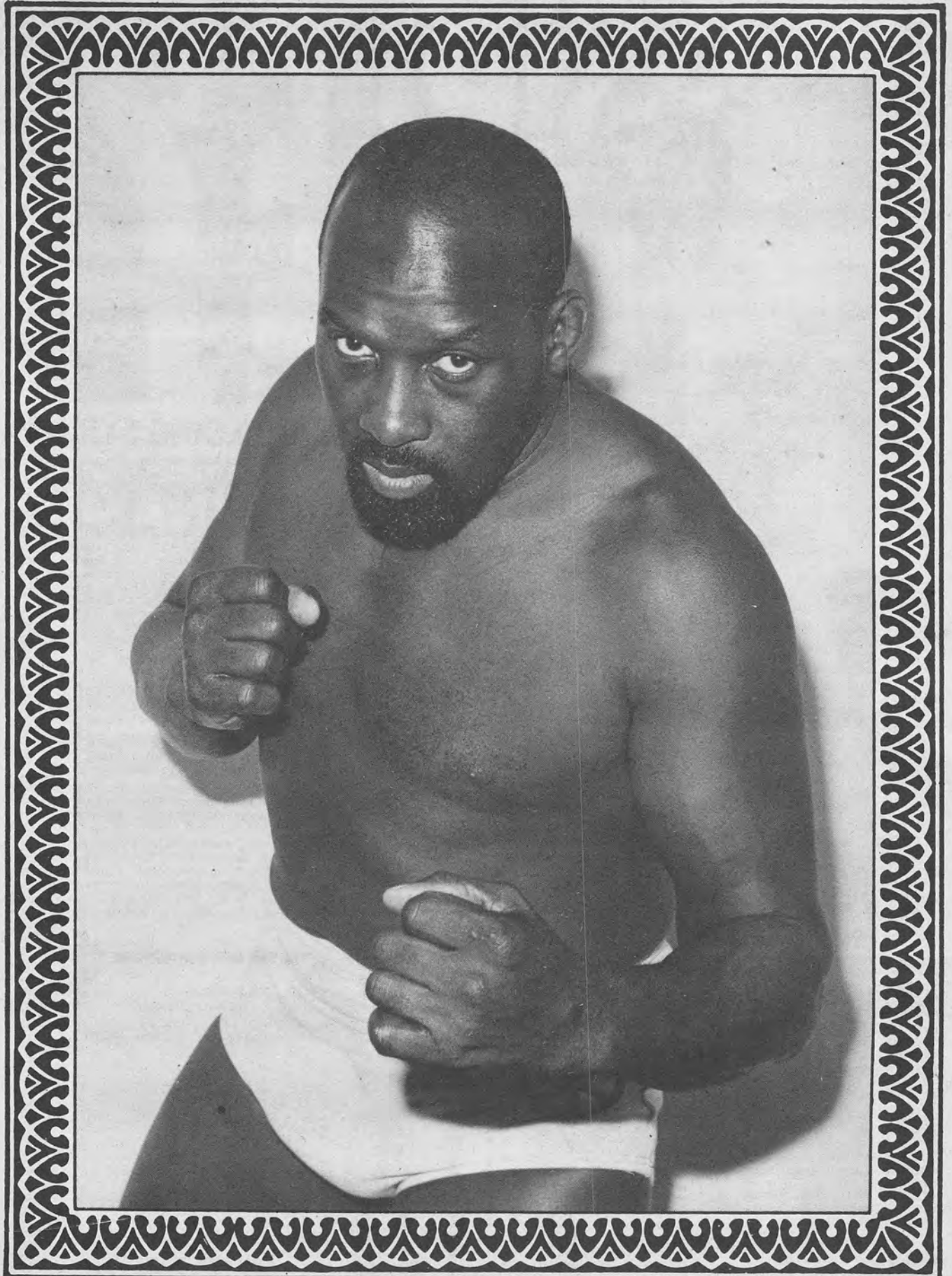
Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

MAIL TODAY!

INSIDE WRESTLING PINUP #34

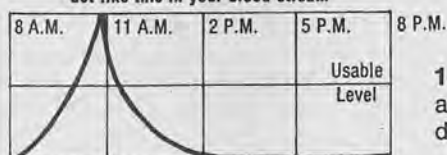


SONNY KING

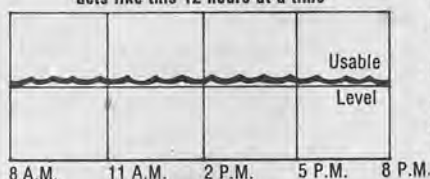
Revolutionary New Timed-Release Nutrient Tablet AUTOMATICALLY REPLACES THE VITAMINS YOUR BODY USES UP, EVERY SECOND OF EVERY DAY!

Actually meters out 42 active vitamins, minerals and essential amino acids... hour after hour... in a continuous fresh supply.

ORDINARY SUPPLEMENTS
act like this in your blood stream



NUTRI-VITA TIMED RELEASE
acts like this 12 hours at a time



These three biological breakthroughs make
NUTRI-VITA dramatically more effective:

- 1. TIMED RELEASE.** Ordinary tablets and capsules dissolve immediately and begin to leave the body. Nutri-Vita stays in your blood stream for all day, all night action.
- 2. CHELATED MINERALS.** Nutri-Vita's minerals are biologically bonded to protein. This makes them more available to your system than ordinary mineral supplements.
- 3. INGREDIENT ISOLATION.** Many vitamin and mineral combinations actually **neutralize themselves on contact**—in the tablet or in your stomach. Nutri-Vita's ingredients stay separate—and **effective** until your body uses them.

Vitamins, minerals and amino acids—are essential to human health. No wonder millions of Americans choose to augment their family's diet with a vitamin-mineral supplement every day.

But up to now, NO supplement could give you the vitamins, minerals, and amino acids you need... **at precisely the moment you need them.** NUTRI-VITA does! Because unless all the right ingredients are furnished at the right time, many of the nutrients in the food you eat will be wasted.

SCIENTIFICALLY FORMULATED FOR MAXIMUM BIOLOGICAL VALUE. Fifteen years in the development, Nutri-Vita has been used and tested by hundreds of world champion athletes, and by ordinary men and women all over the country. They report increased endurance*, greater capacity to handle heavy workloads**, and less fatigue*** when using Nutri-Vita as compared to any preparation they used before. Nutri-Vita even helps maintain energy levels while dieting****.

That's because Nutri-Vita's formulation is not only nutritionally superior in itself, it incorporates **totally new concepts** of manufacture that provide maximum biological value for your body.

Here is how this special nutritional supplement achieves the kind of superior action that has never been available from any tablet or capsule before:

ROUND-THE-CLOCK NUTRIENT PROTECTION. Vitamins (except A, D, E, and K) are water soluble and cannot be stored in the body for later use. Any excess is passed through the body and lost. With supplements that dissolve all at once, therefore, the vitamin level may quickly peak at far more than the tissues can use at any one time—then just as quickly sink to the previous level. So even though you take a high potency supplement you may actually be vitamin starved for most of the day!

Nutri-Vita tablets, on the other hand are timed release... **to meter out fresh nutrients constantly.** They rise to the proper level for maximum utilization in your blood, ready for your body to use them as it needs them—for up to 12 hours at a time. By taking Nutri-Vita just morning and night, you get round-the-clock nutrient protection that's substantially more available to your system than the same amount of vitamins in ordinary capsules and tablets.

POTENCY PROTECTED. Many products ignore the fact that certain vitamins and minerals are chemically incompatible and react very readily to neutralize each other. That is why all of the ingredients in a Nutri-Vita tablet are isolated from each other by a special patented process. This keeps them potent until the moment of absorption into the blood stream, where deactivation is no longer a problem. With Nutri-Vita, your body gets what the label says.

Nutri-Vita is many times more active because, we use a process known as chelation (from the Greek "kelos" for claw). In it, minerals are bonded to protein with a biochemical "claw." Masked by the protein, the

minerals now seem organic to your body and are readily absorbed. This process is so effective that studies have shown chelated minerals to be more available to the body than ordinary minerals. All minerals in Nutri-Vita are chelated.

PLUS ALL THE ESSENTIAL AMINO ACIDS. Proteins are the building blocks of tissues. And amino acids are the building blocks of protein. Those amino acids which the body cannot manufacture for itself are called essential amino acids and must be furnished every day. Nutri-Vita releases the eight essential amino acids into your blood stream all day long—ready at meal times and snack times to help complete the proteins in the food you eat.

Famous National, Olympic and World Record Champions Compare Nutri-Vita in these unsolicited comments:

"Strength has increased without a concurrent weight increase."

Richard B. Watson—Two-time N.J. Decathlon Champion

"Personally, my teammates... and I can feel the beneficial effects of Nutri-Vita hours after ingestion... the inclusion of protein (maintains) energy levels while dieting."

Richard E. Morris—Greater Atlantic Coast Powerlift Champion, 1974

"Our crew was introduced to Nutri-Vita... while we were preparing for... the Royal Henley Regatta in England. I was very impressed with how the oarsmen responded. They seemed to recuperate faster and their overall fatigue level was improved."

Gary Kilpatrick—Varsity Lightweight Crew Coach, Princeton University

"Nutri-Vita (makes) hard work seem a lot easier. As I am not a chemist, I can not understand how it works, but as an athlete, I know it does work."

Carl Barisch, Cleveland Browns

"I have used Nutri-Vita for over two years now, and have felt quite a difference in my training and performance. Nutri-Vita helps recovery time and increases endurance."

Fred Samara—1975 National AAU Decathlon Champion

"We used (Nutri-Vita) with both university swimmers and age group swimmers. The most noticeable effect being increased capacity to handle heavy work loads in training... Excellent and a valuable asset to athletes."

William Farley—Varsity Swimming Coach, Princeton Univ. Coach, Eastern Collegiate Swimming Championship Team, 1973, 1974

IMPORTANT NEWS IF YOU SMOKE. Tobacco and vitamins are antagonists. A cigarette destroys vitamin C in your system. Nutri-Vita helps protect you against such deficiencies by constantly releasing a fresh supply of vitamins after every cigarette. It's the round-the-clock source of all the nutrients your body is known to need, in the form it can use them best.

NUTRI-VITA WILL WORK FOR YOU OR YOUR MONEY BACK. Would you like to provide your family with "vitamin insurance"? Nutri-Vita can give you the help you need. Because Nutri-Vita provides large doses of nutrients in a concentrated form every hour of every day. That way your body selects exactly the nutrients it needs at exactly the moment it needs them. Doesn't this make much more sense than assaulting your system with a massive dosage of vitamins once a day, many of which will be simply excreted?

See for yourself whether Nutri-Vita helps make you and every member of your family feel the way famous athletes say it makes them feel... "Stronger and more energetic hours after they take it." Nutri-Vita makes sense to them. Try Nutri-Vita for 30 days and see if it doesn't make sense to you, too. Satisfaction guaranteed or your money back of course.

NUTRI-VITA Timed Release Nutritional Supplement. A specially balanced, factory fresh formula of 12 vitamins, 9 minerals, and 21 nutrients including all 8 essential amino acids. Contains no sugar, no starch, no binders, no artificial colors, no artificial flavors.

ADULTS: 2 tablets morning and evening.

CHILDREN 6 to 12: 1 tablet morning and evening.

100% NATURAL AND ORGANIC

Romar Sales, Dept. NV-1814

380 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10017

YES. Nutri-Vita's round-the-clock system of vitamin-mineral-amino acid supplementation makes sense to me. I enclose \$10.00 for a 120-tablet bottle (a 30-day supply for adults, a 60-day supply for children) under the terms of your money-back guarantee. (Please add 35¢ postage and handling.)

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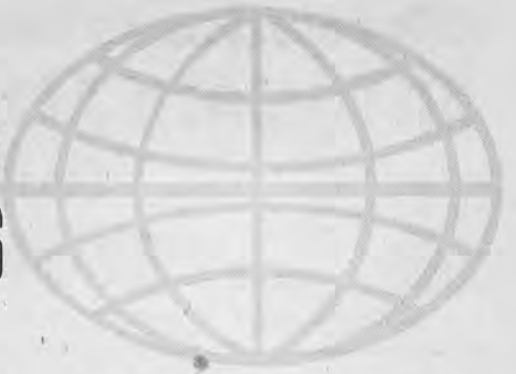
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NEWS FROM THE WRESTLING CAPITALS



Haystacks Calhoun (above) was disqualified for going after Blackjack Mulligan outside the ropes. Tiger Conway Jr. (below) has been joined by Steve Keirn to form a great new tag team.



PENNSYLVANIA REPORTS
By Dave Creedon

A HIGHLY TOUTED battle of champions took place in Pittsburgh's Civic Arena as W.W.W.F. champion Bruno Sammartino grappled with a desperate European champion, Waldo Von Erich.

The battle got underway before the bell even sounded. Waldo attacked Bruno with a leather belt. Sammartino countered by tearing into the arrogant challenger with a few choice kicks and punches.

Once the bell sounded, it became a tough battle for both wrestlers. In fact, it was so evenly matched, no man held the advantage over the other for any great length of time.

The end came for Von Erich when he gave Bruno a violent body slam while the champion was running the ropes. Waldo then mounted the top rope in hopes of catching Bruno with his deadly "Blitzkrieg Drop." But Bruno was able to move out of the way in the nick of time, and Von Erich dropped to the canvas. Sammartino then put Waldo in a leg lock, and followed by making quick work of the German opponent.

In other action, Haystacks Calhoun and Blackjack Mulligan were disqualified for battling outside the ring . . . The popular Polish mat star Ivan Putski triumphed over Blackjack Lanza . . . Gorilla Monsoon made mincemeat of his opponent, Hangman Jim Grabmire, by beating him into submission in a mere 29 seconds . . . Manny Soto and Frank Monte's bitter battle ended in a draw. A rematch is expected.

CAROLINA CORRESPONDENCE

By Russ Carter

This part of the country is still in shock over hearing the news of the terrible plane crash in which promoter David Crockett, wrestlers Rick Flair, Bob Bruggers and Johnny Valentine were injured. The crash occurred near Wilmington, North Carolina. The injured are well on their way to a speedy recovery.

In a wild tag team match, shown on Raleigh television, the new team of Steven Keirn and Tiger Conway Jr. gave Gene and Ole Anderson a very difficult time.

Gene Anderson tried early in the match to disable Kevin, but Steven was able to withstand the attack, and put Anderson in a headlock. But Ole came in and rescued his brother from the attack.

The match ended in a wild melee, with Keirn, and Conway holding their own against the Anderson's dirty tactics. During the last few moments of the match Keirn and Conway were under attack from the battling



Waldo Von Erich (above) had a tough time against W.W.W.F. champion Bruno Sammartino in their wild title confrontation.

brothers when Steve somehow overcame Gene and floored him. The referee awarded the match to Keirn and Conway.

In other action in the area, Spoiler No. I and Spoiler No. II are down here and causing all kinds of trouble for their opponents . . . Dory Funk Jr. substituted for the injured Johnny Valentine in a very exciting match against N.W.A. champion Jack

(Continued on page 62)

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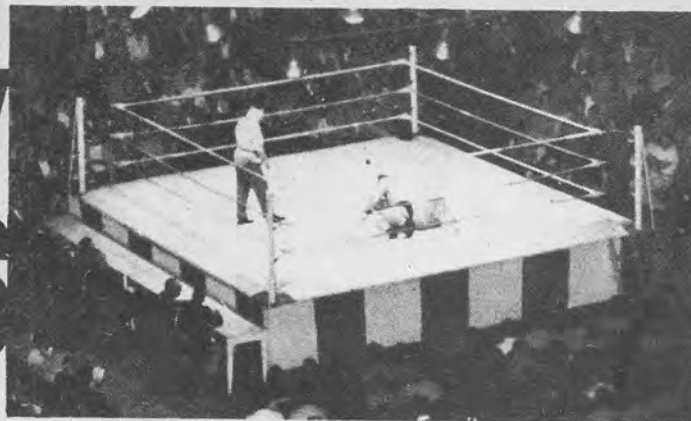
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And I'd like to also say Tony and Dean will be greatly missed in this area.

I am sure the fans will agree with me, The Blackjack's version of Tony and Dean being cowards is a downright LIE!

A good tag team like Tony and Dean works together. The two

grapplers think alike, act alike and they don't disagree with each other in the ring. The Blackjacks split up in the past—why don't they split up again?

Tony and Dean can and do run rings

A man with Dusty's determination will win the championship. I only hope it will be during the year of the bicentennial. I know I'll be rooting for him!

GERALD WINFIELD
Texarkana, Arkansas

OH DONNA!

If it is as you say, that Donna Christenello is "The One Woman Who Doesn't Want Moolah's Title" (INSIDE WRESTLING/November



Dusty Rhodes (above) is urged by his fans to continue his quest for the N.W.A. title. Donna Christenello (right) is applauded not only for her mat skill but also for her loyalty.



Blackjack Mulligan's clawhold makes Dean Ho a bloody mess (above); did it also make Dean and his tag team partner, Tony Garea turn tail and run away?

around The Blackjacks, and by far, they are the better wrestlers.

Tony, Dean, hurry home! We all miss you.

VIVIAN LICKER
Sanford, Maine

GO DUSTY

Dusty Rhodes' quest for the N.W.A. championship ("This Is The Year Of The American Dream" [INSIDE WRESTLING/December 1975]) should be used as an example to show school children how the American system works.

1975), then The Fabulous Moolah should count herself lucky to have a friend such as Donna.

The bond of friendship between two great women must be a strong one indeed. For anyone who has ever seen Donna in action knows this woman is championship material.

One cannot help but admire a person who puts her strong principles ahead of mere personal gain. Someday, Moolah should step aside and let this great person wear the title

(Continued on page 48)

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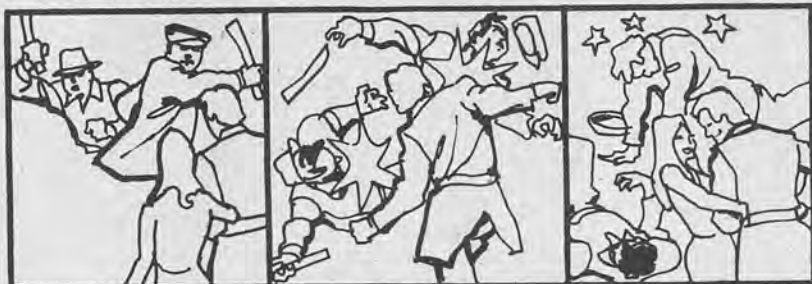
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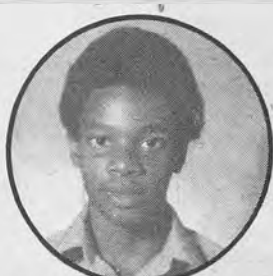
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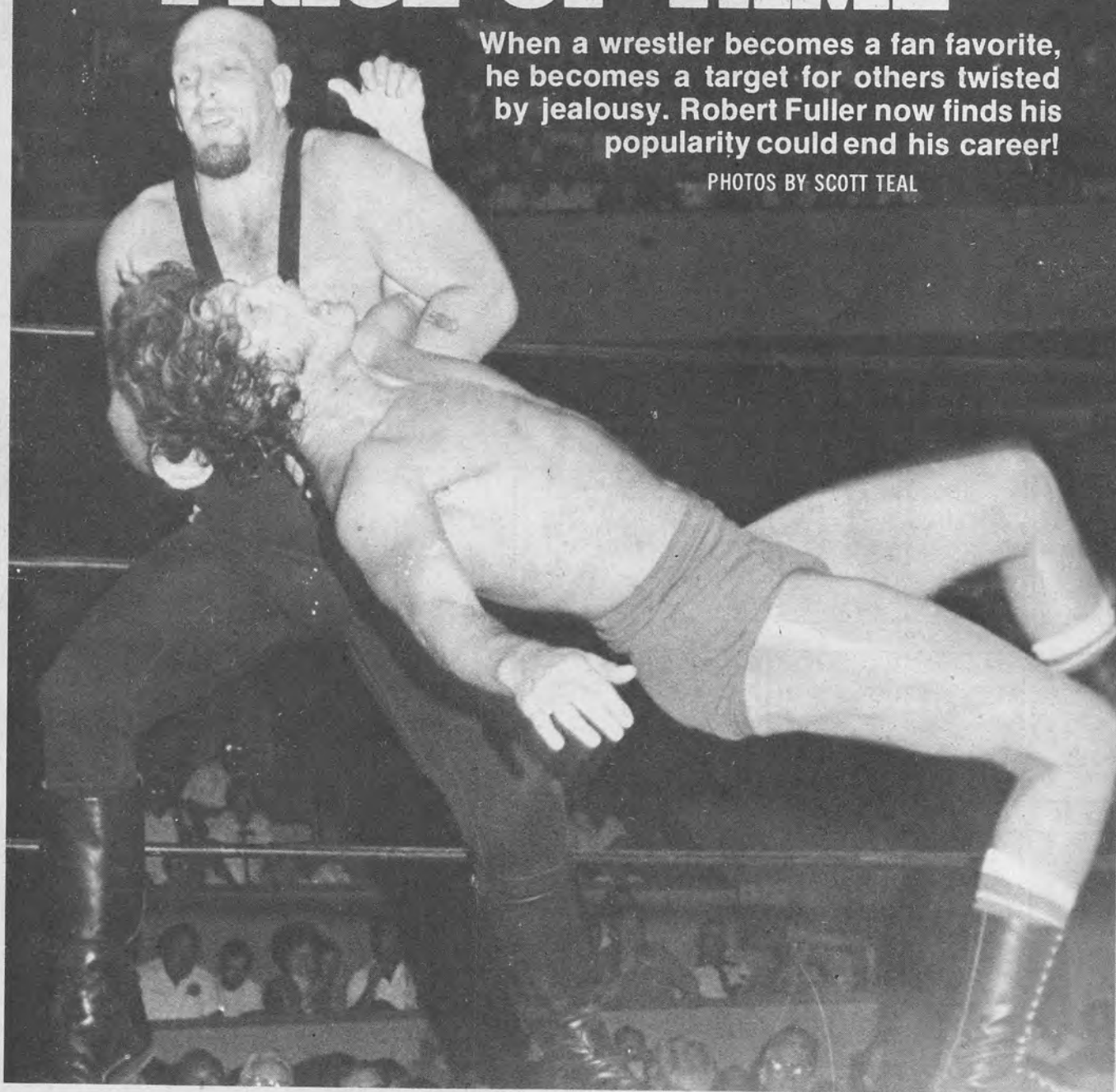
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ROBERT FULLER PAYS THE COSTLY PRICE OF FAME

When a wrestler becomes a fan favorite, he becomes a target for others twisted by jealousy. Robert Fuller now finds his popularity could end his career!

PHOTOS BY SCOTT TEAL



WOMEN FIND THE sight of Robert Fuller breathtaking. They scream and shout their adoration every time he enters the wrestling arena. The minute he steps into the ring, he is showered with flowers from his adoring female fans.

And Otto Von Heller doesn't like it. Von Heller has quite a different

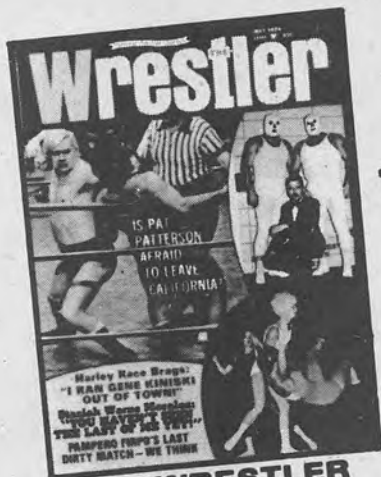
opinion of young Fuller. "He's a no good, two-bit, creepy punk!" said Otto. "He knows nothing about how to wrestle. Anyone who knows anything about this sport knows I'm a much better grappler than he. Why those dumb girls go wild over him is a real mystery to me. He's no damn good!"

Every time Von Heller sees Fuller he shouts these insults at the young grappler. Finally, Robert got so fed up he challenged Von Heller: "If you're as good as you seem to think you are, why don't you wrestle me? I'll prove you are the one who isn't any good!"

Von Heller quickly accepted the
(Continued on page 52)

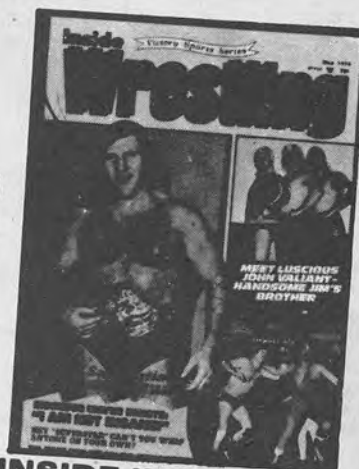
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No girl wrestler has so consistently come so close to defeating Fabulous Moolah for the women's wrestling championship as has Vicki Williams. Now the years of disappointment have taken their toll on this splendid athlete.

Below: Battered and lying on the canvas, Vicki Williams is desperately trying to find the strength to carry on. Below right: Donna Christenello leaps high in the air to come down on her fallen opponent's throat.

PHOTOS BY THEO EHRET

VICKI WILLIAMS: SHATTERED DREAMS AND BROKEN SPIRIT



A HEAVY GRAY pall hung over the arena. No one really had anything to say to anyone else. Looks of disappointment were on most people's faces. And one thought went through the spectators' minds: "What was wrong with Vickie Williams tonight?"

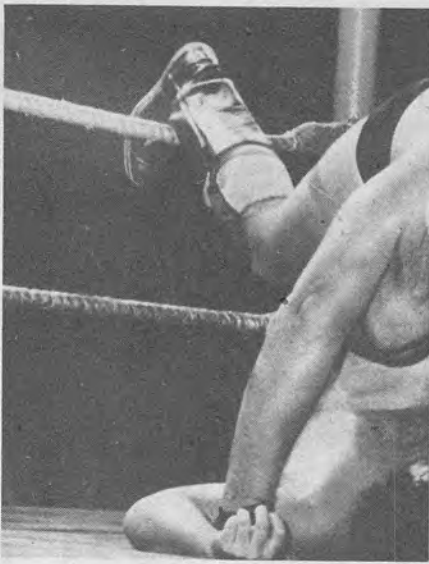
Indeed, what was wrong with Vicki Williams that night?

Even Donna Christenello's fans had not expected the match to be like it was. And they too were slightly disappointed, but for different reasons than Vicki's fans.

Vicki is famous for her aeronautic acrobatics in the wrestling arena. Many of her opponents have been stunned by her famous dropkicks from mid-air. In fact, some of Vicki's fans go to see her for just that very reason. This night they came away disappointed.

Though Vicki and Donna have grappled each other before, it has always been a close and fierce contest with the decision hanging up in the air until the last possible moment. In fact, some of their matches have been described as

(Continued on page 50)



EVEN A REFEREE can sometimes make a mistake. In the bizarre case of the match between Irish Pat Barrett and Blackjack Mulligan, several people think the referee did indeed make a very serious misjudgement.

Certainly Barrett thinks he is the victim of a wrong decision. Many of the fans who were present that night think the referee was wrong. However, Blackjack Mulligan is very happy with the decision.

The referee stares intently at seemingly pinned Pat Barrett (below); his blocked vision makes it impossible for him to see Blackjack Mulligan's foot straddling the rope (left)!

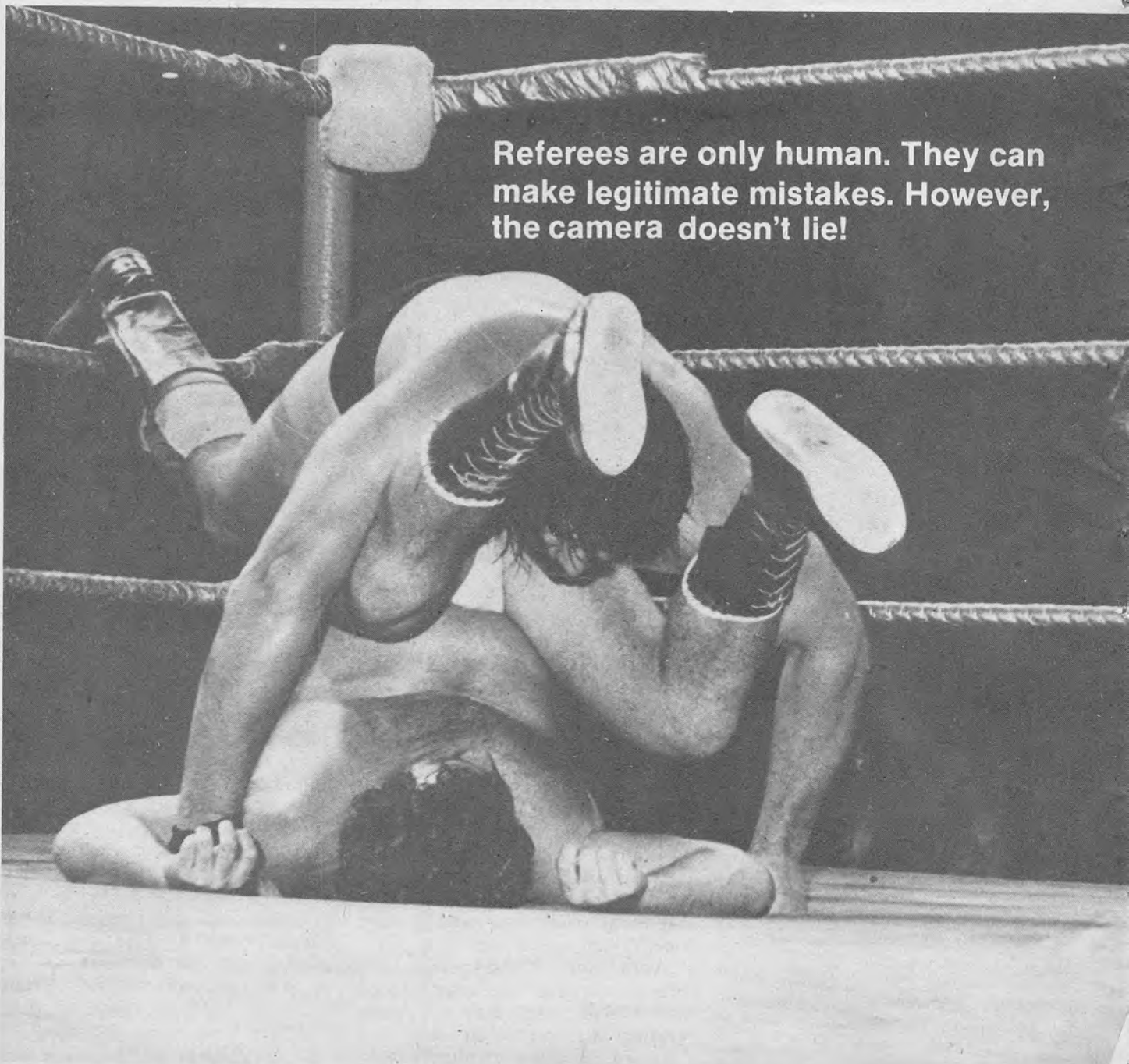
But there is proof the referee may have been in error.

Of course, the match was strange from the very start. Even before the bell sounded Mulligan attacked Pat, who was still wearing his robe. Blackjack grabbed the back of the silk jacket, tore it off Barrett, and began to choke the helpless wrestler. The referee had to pull Blackjack away and send him back to his corner.

When the real match finally got underway, Mulligan did not look as brave as he did in his pre-match attack. Irish Pat kept him running around the ropes, trying to stay clear.

But Barrett was quick and soon was able to catch up to Blackjack. He grappled Mulligan to the floor, trying

Referees are only human. They can make legitimate mistakes. However, the camera doesn't lie!

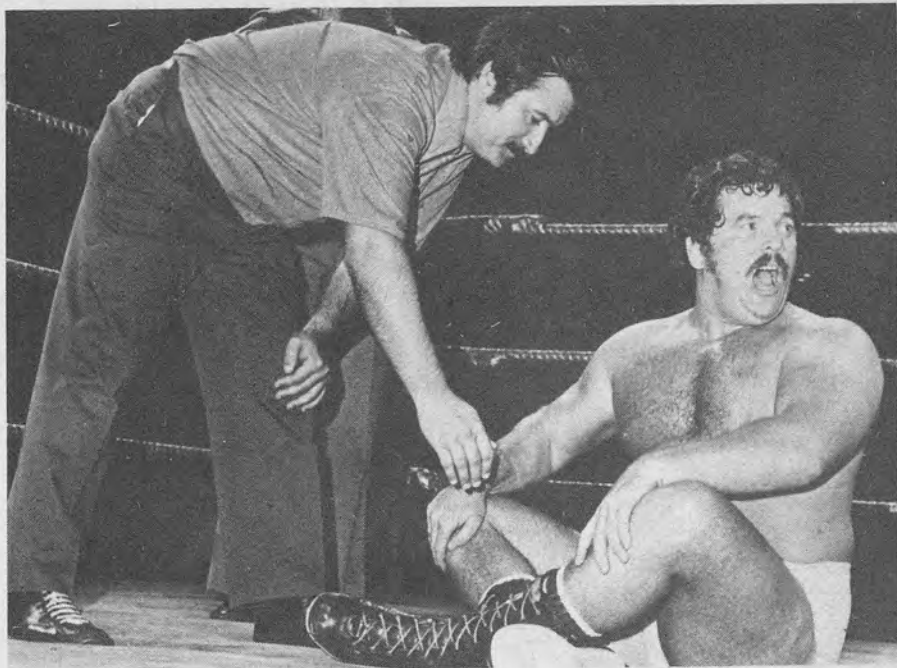


to put the big wrestler in an armlock. But somehow Mulligan was able to break free and reverse the hold.

A swift punch by Barrett to Mulligan's midsection freed Pat from the hold and soon he was back on his feet. This time Mulligan was doing the pursuing, with Barrett trying to keep away. But Mulligan tripped Pat and sent the grappler sprawling to the floor. Blackjack jumped up on the ropes, ready to pounce on Barrett, but somehow he slipped and fell on the floor outside the ring.

Barrett grabbed his chance and

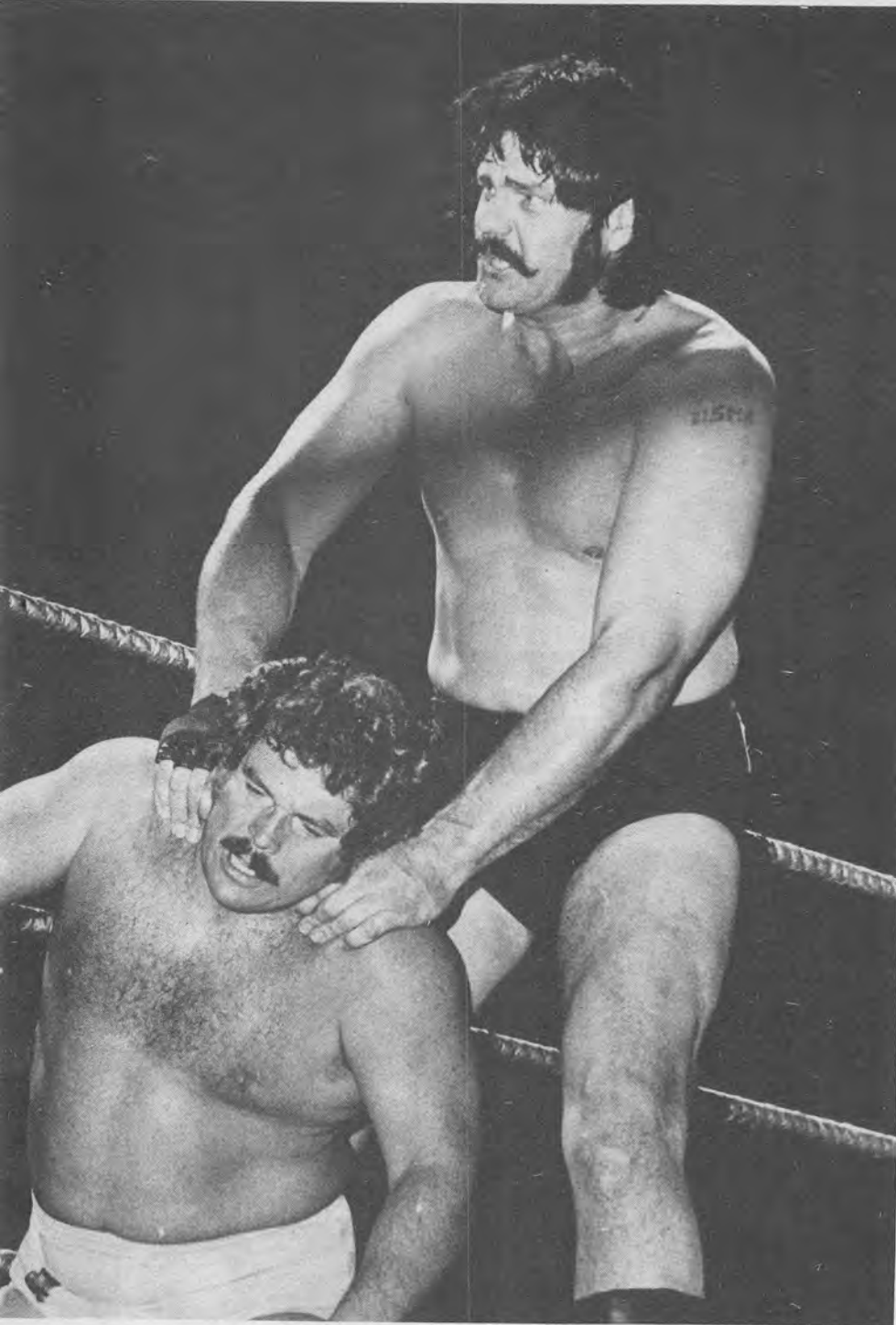
Barrett screams at Mulligan to return but the referee tells Pat the match is over (right).



PHOTOS BY BILL APTER

**THE REFEREE
WAS
WRONG ...
AND
WE'VE GOT
THE
PROOF!**





Above: Pat Barrett falls to his knees as Mulligan applies with full pressure an excruciating nervehold. Pat is quickly losing consciousness; it takes every ounce of his strength to twist out of the hold. Only the most accomplished athletes have escaped this hold. Top right: Pat tells the crowd he didn't lose legally.

jumped back to his feet. He put his hands around Blackjack's head, trying to pull the big grappler back inside. The referee stepped in and separated the two, allowing Mulligan a chance to return from out in the audience.

The instant Mulligan stepped through the ropes, he pounced on Barrett, who was not expecting the surprise attack. Pat crumpled to the floor, with the big grappler on top of

him. Within a matter of seconds Mulligan had Barrett in a pin position. The referee saw this, and counted Irish Pat Barrett out. He then declared Mulligan the winner of the match.

But this is where the controversy begins. Barrett claims that Blackjack's feet were not entirely clear of the ropes when he was pinning Pat. In fact, he later said, "Mulligan used the ropes as leverage to keep me down. If he hadn't,



I would have been able to get up very easily. He cheated, and the referee did nothing about it."

Mulligan saw the events differently. He told our reporters, "Barrett just can't accept the fact that he lost the match. I won it fair and square. I am just a much better wrestler than he is, and he just does not wish to acknowledge it."

Luckily, our reporter and photographer were intently watching those few moments of action. In fact, the photographer snapped a picture of the very moment when Blackjack was pinning Pat. It shows that Mulligan did indeed have his foot on the ropes, just as Barrett has claimed.

"It's a trick photo," said Mulligan. "You guys are trying to take the win away from me. I know you're just trying to help Barrett. But I also know that the picture is a fake. I did not have my foot on the ropes. Just ask anyone who was there. I won the match fair and square!"

Barrett claimed the referee did not see what actually happened because he was looking at Pat and not at Mulligan. "If he had just looked up while he was counting me out," said Barrett, "he would have seen that Blackjack had his foot on the ropes. As soon as the count was done, Mulligan took it off the ropes so the referee wouldn't see. And that picture proves it!"

Pat plans to take the matter up with W.W.W.F. officials to see if he can get the referee's decision reversed. He is offering the photograph of Mulligan's foot on the ropes as evidence in the case. However, no one is quite sure what the officials will decide, or if a rematch will have to be made between the two wrestlers to decide the outcome of the feud. □



NELSON ROYAL HAS A BONE TO PICK!

PHOTOS BY BILL APTER

WHEN NELSON ROYAL agreed to do battle with Eric the Red, he did not count on one thing—George “Crybaby” Cannon.

Even before the match began it was obvious to observers Cannon was going to make sure his man won the match, even if he had to offer some “assistance” to Eric to insure the victory. That Eric the Red was eventually disqualified was of little consolation to Royal.

In fact, by the time Eric was disqualified, Nelson could barely see what was happening.

“You see, it’s like this,” Royal explained later. “After I had been kicked, mauled, punched, clubbed, and choked, I really didn’t notice too much of anything. I only wish I could have had a chance to give Eric and Crybaby Cannon a taste of their own medicine!”

This match was a difficult one from before it even started. The minute Nelson stepped out of his dressing room, it was clear there was going to be trouble during this match. Cannon was waiting at Royal’s door. When Nelson emerged, George snarled at him, saying, “I’m going to make sure you don’t win tonight, baby.” Then he pulled a coiled rope from his pocket. “Just in case you get out of line . . .”

Royal tried to call the referee to point out that Cannon had

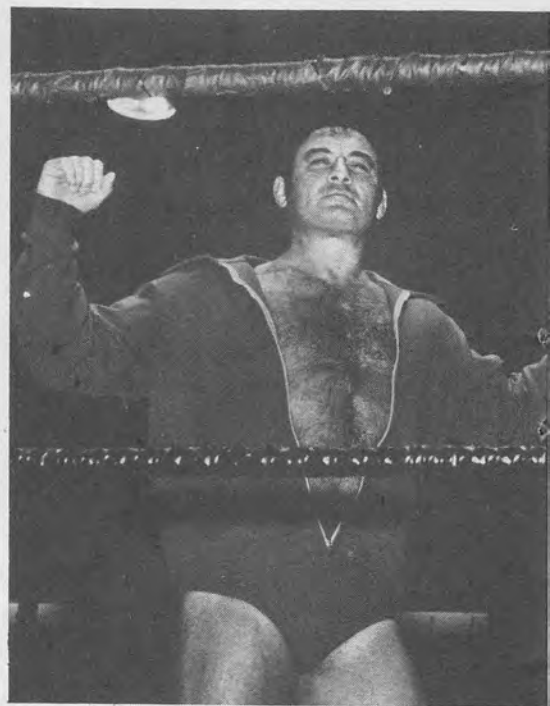
(Continued on page 54)

Eric the Red brandishes a bone while receiving instructions from his manager, George Cannon.



When two tag team experts form a new team, the fireworks that result could change the very face of wrestling!

PHOTOS BY BILL APTER



THERE WAS NONE of the celebration excitement usually found in the victor's dressing room. Don Kent answered reporter's questions in monosyllables as he prepared to leave the arena.

Finally, someone asked, "Are you bored by all this?"

Kent froze. A weak smile flickered across his face and he sat down on the training table. He decided to admit the obvious.

"Most of my professional life," he began, "I've been part of a tag team. When I was one half of the Fabulous Kangaroos, there were moments of greatness. We were constantly perfecting maneuvers, discovering new things, and developing an original tag team philosophy. It was always challenging and exciting.

"Tag team wrestling is the new frontier. Solo wrestling has been

HALF A TAG TEAM + AN UNBEA

The tag team of Chris Tolos and Don Kent (below) are veterans of Fabulous Kangaroos (right) and the Tolos Brothers (left).



around for ages. All you can do is perfect what others discovered long before you. Tag team wrestling is the world's most innovative sport; though it's in its infancy. It may take another century before we're able to absorb the many changes we've been experimenting with today.

"There are hundreds of methods yet to be even conceived. Within my lifetime, the entire sport may undergo vast change. To work with a partner you can trust and respect is the best of all possible worlds. I've never gotten one-tenth the thrill from wrestling solo as I've experienced in tag team competition. I'd rather chart new ground than follow in someone else's footsteps."

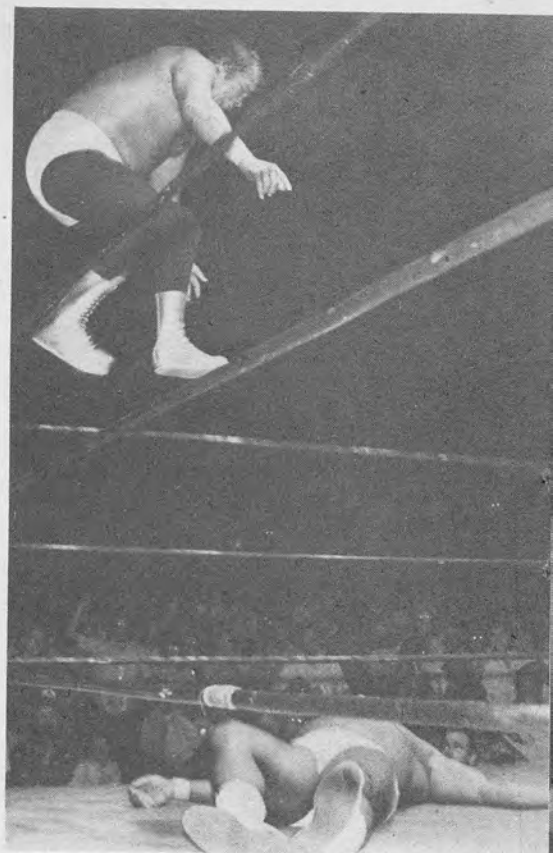
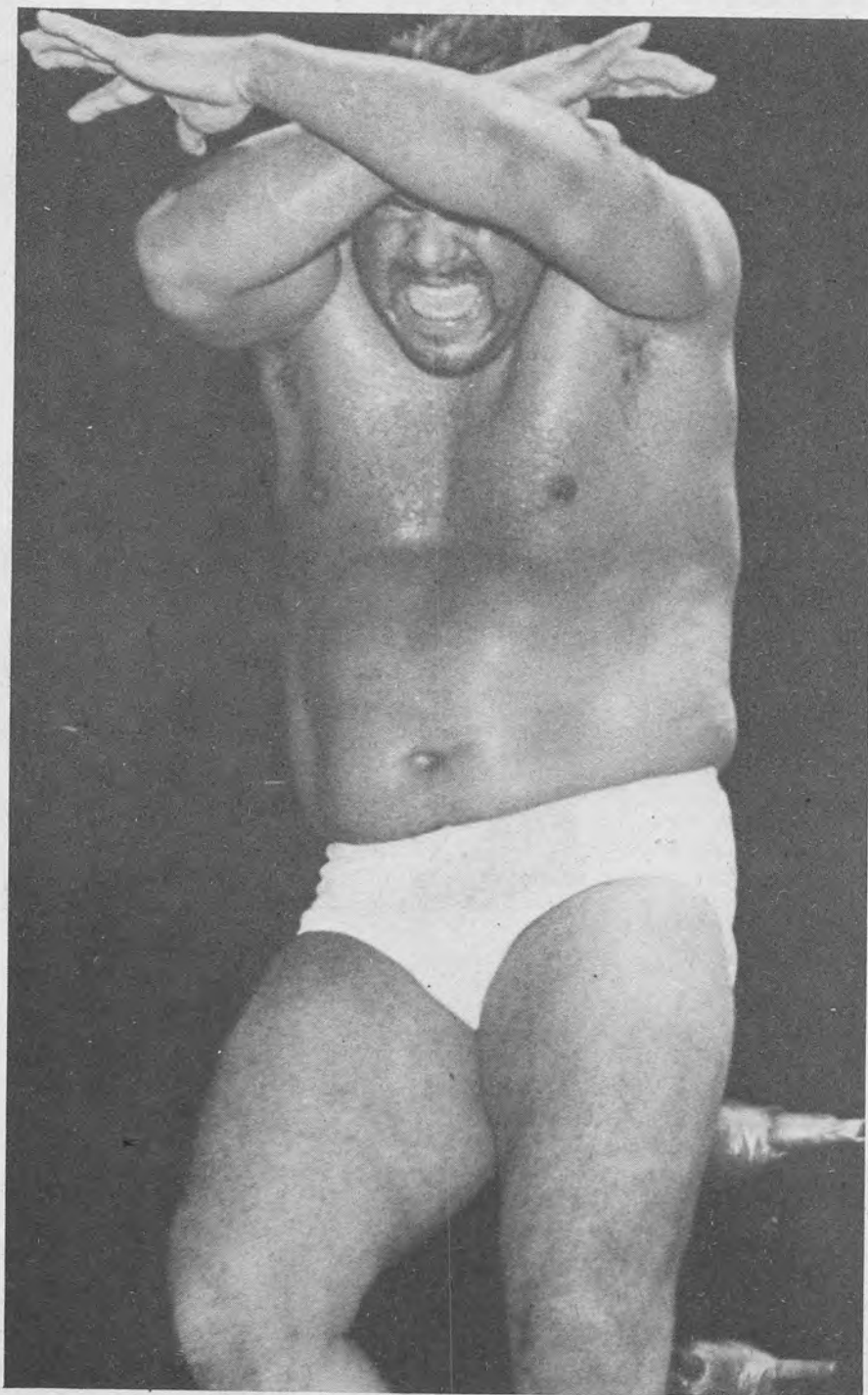
Kent talked more than two hours to anyone who would listen about

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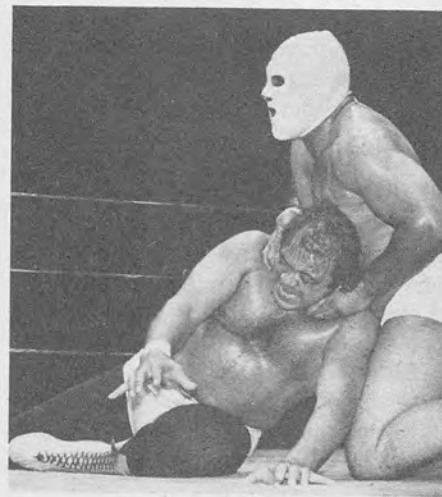


HALF A TAG TEAM = TABLE DUO

EL GRAN MARKUS UNMASKED



Above: Jose Lothario leaps off the top rope onto the fallen El Gran Markus. Left: An unmasked Markus tries to cover his face. Below: Markus chokes his foe mercilessly early in the bout.



AND T KNOW

Everyone supposed El Gran Markus was a famous wrestler in masked disguise. However, the face behind the mask is just as mysterious revealed as it was cloaked!



The action spills over the ropes and Markus batters Lothario on the press table. At this moment, most fans thought they'd be seeing Jose for the last time, as he would surely lose the "loser leave town" match. It took all Jose's greatness to escape Markus!

A COLLECTION OF masks lay sprawled upon the table. Once they had belonged to El Gran Markus. Now they were in the possession of Jose Lothario. The masks had been torn off Markus during some of the most savage brawls ever witnessed in Texas.

Still, that had not been enough for Lothario.

"Markus is a blight on professional wrestling," Jose said heatedly to a group of friends, "and he must be driven out of the area. His presence disgraces us all."

Though they all agreed with Jose, none were ready for the mat star's shocking challenge.

"I'll give Markus back his masks," Jose promised. "I'll leave the area,

and I'll shave my head if that guy beats me in a death match. If I beat him, all he has to do is leave the area. Do you think he'll go for it?"

Jose's friends said the determined grappler did not have to go that far. Markus would be willing to risk leaving the area just to recover his masks. Jose would not have to gamble his hair and livelihood to get Markus in a death match.

"I have to risk something important," Jose replied, "so I won't even consider surrendering. I'll have to push myself to the limits in this match. I'll need every psychological incentive to force my body to endure any agony and function when it's exhausted. The more I risk, the better I'll wrestle. Pressure will work for me!"

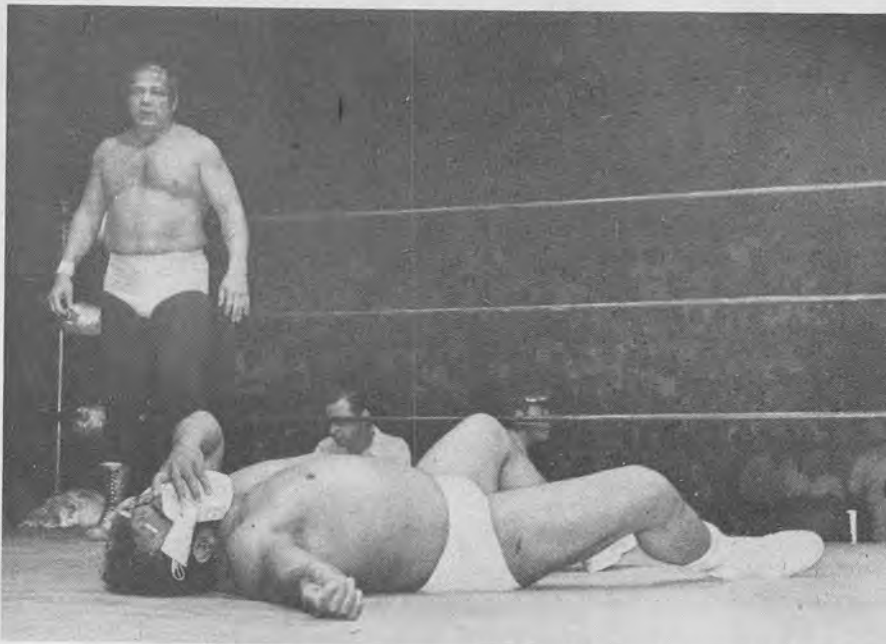
His friends tried to dissuade Jose from risking so much, but their pleas fell on deaf ears. If El Gran Markus accepted, it would be the final match between these two. If Jose failed, he didn't want to stick around anyway.

Jose had been forced to this extreme due to the most startling revelation in years. Everyone assumed Markus was a famous wrestler who for some strange reason was hiding behind a mask. However, when Jose unmasked him, he was unknown to the fans. His identity still a secret despite the unmasking, there was no reason for the bare-faced grappler to leave the area.

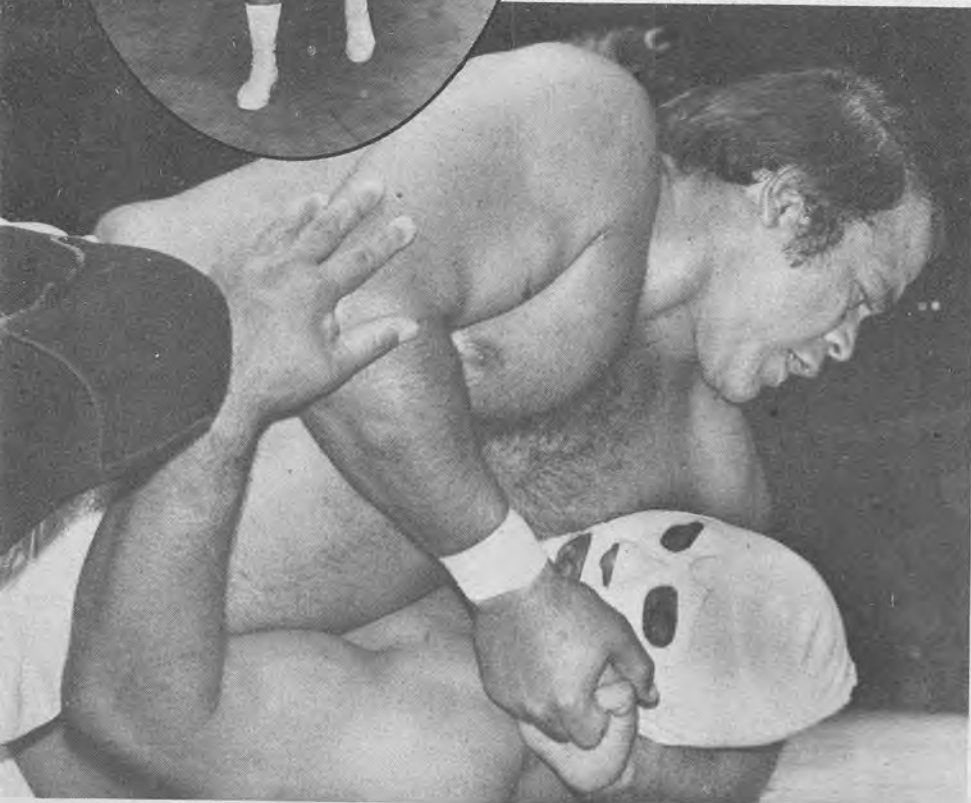
The wrestlers and fans were stunned to realize a man that skilled could be unknown to them. He was

PHOTOS BY JIM CALDWELL

HEY STILL DON'T WHO HE IS!



Above: His mask torn off his face, an exhausted, beaten, and humiliated El Gran Markus lies on the canvas. He clutches his mask to his face, as if he could change the past with this desperate gesture. Yet he and everyone else knows El Gran Markus will soon begin his forced exile from Texas mat action. Left: A confident El Gran Markus enters the arena for the match. Below: Using a headlock to weaken his foe, Jose tortures Markus. It would soon be the end of El Gran Markus.



more mysterious unmasked than masked! Only El Gran Markus can tell how he came to be an excellent grappler without establishing some reputation. It seems impossible that any man could remain unknown with that much ability. And it is doubtful El Gran Markus is about to reveal his origins!

So Jose had to risk everything to gain his objective. Since there was no way Markus would leave voluntarily, he had to be forced to leave. Destroying Lothario's career would be tempting enough to have the masked grappler enter a "Loser Leave Town" match.

No one was surprised when Markus accepted the challenge. Jose's friends were helplessly scared as they took their seats on the night of the confrontation. All they could do was hope for the best.

El Gran Markus was in excellent shape as he ran into the arena. He had trained long and hard for this brawl. His sprightly step brought fear into the hearts of Jose's friends.

Within seconds of the opening bell, their fears were justified. Markus knew what was at stake and lusted for the spoils of victory. A crazed jungle beast couldn't have been more ferocious.

However, Jose's cunning proved to be more important than his foe's savage rampages. Lothario's artistry and insight confounded Markus at every turn. Wrestling experts saw what was happening, although many fans were worried seeing Markus relentlessly charge. However, the bull must be tired out before the matador can make the kill.

Tiring Markus out also took a lot out of Jose. He took a great deal of punishment, but he still had the reserves to win. The cheers greeting his victory reverberated throughout the arena. It was an exhausted but elated Lothario whose hand was raised in victory. Markus, unmasked and beaten, retreated back to the dressing room.

Jose didn't throw a victory party after the match. Only when El Gran Markus boarded a jet for San Francisco did the celebration begin. After making sure Markus had left, the happiest party ever was held at Lothario's. And as party favors, Jose gave each of his guests one of Markus' masks! □

THE TRIUMPHANT RETURN OF BOBO BRAZIL

**Bobo Brazil has
come back to the
fans who love him.
It was a cause for
celebration
and victory!**

PHOTOS BY DANNY GODDARD

THE BUZZ OF excited fans echoed throughout the arena. The reason for their delight was an announcement in the wrestling program: Bobo Brazil would return! An unprecedented demand for advance sales began almost immediately.

Most fans were too happy about the news to wonder why Bobo was leaving his Michigan base to travel through the east and south. Few suspected the reasons behind the decision.

However, Bobo wants the reasons known to the wrestling fans. He summoned this magazine to his hotel room in Atlanta, Georgia, to explain his startling decision.

"As you know, because reporters have to do almost as much traveling as professional wrestlers," Bobo stated, "the greatest pleasure is getting off the road and being with your family and friends. Even the best hotel suite can't compare to home. After a few years, you'd rather battle the cruelest rulebreaker than face another extended trip.

"I was lucky. Being popular, the fans were willing to see me often. I could stay in one place and not leave home. Being a wrestler and not more than a night's travel from home is the best of

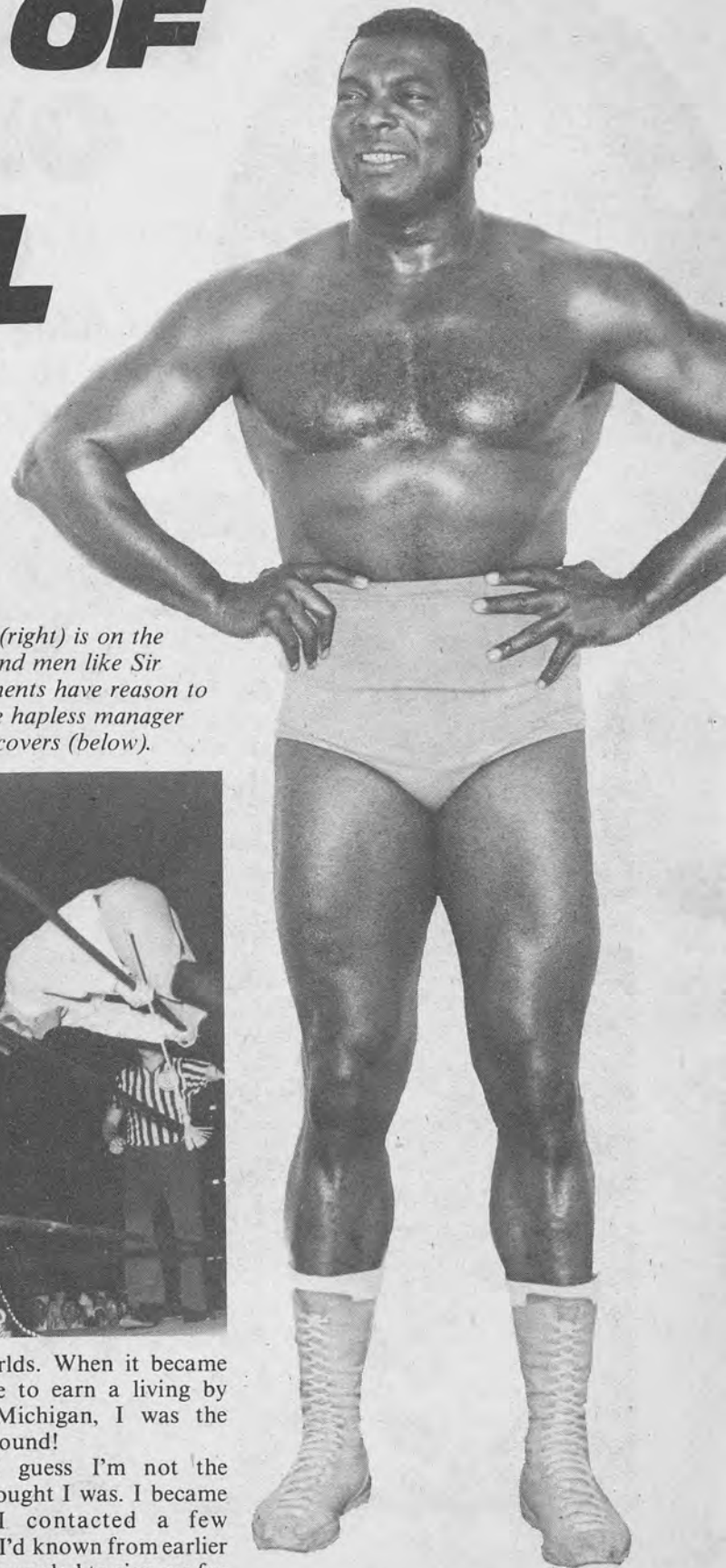
Bobo Brazil (right) is on the road again and men like Sir Dudley Clements have reason to worry, as the hapless manager painfully discovers (below).



all possible worlds. When it became possible for me to earn a living by remaining in Michigan, I was the happiest guy around!

"However, I guess I'm not the homebody I thought I was. I became restless. So I contacted a few promoters who I'd known from earlier days and they were glad to sign me for

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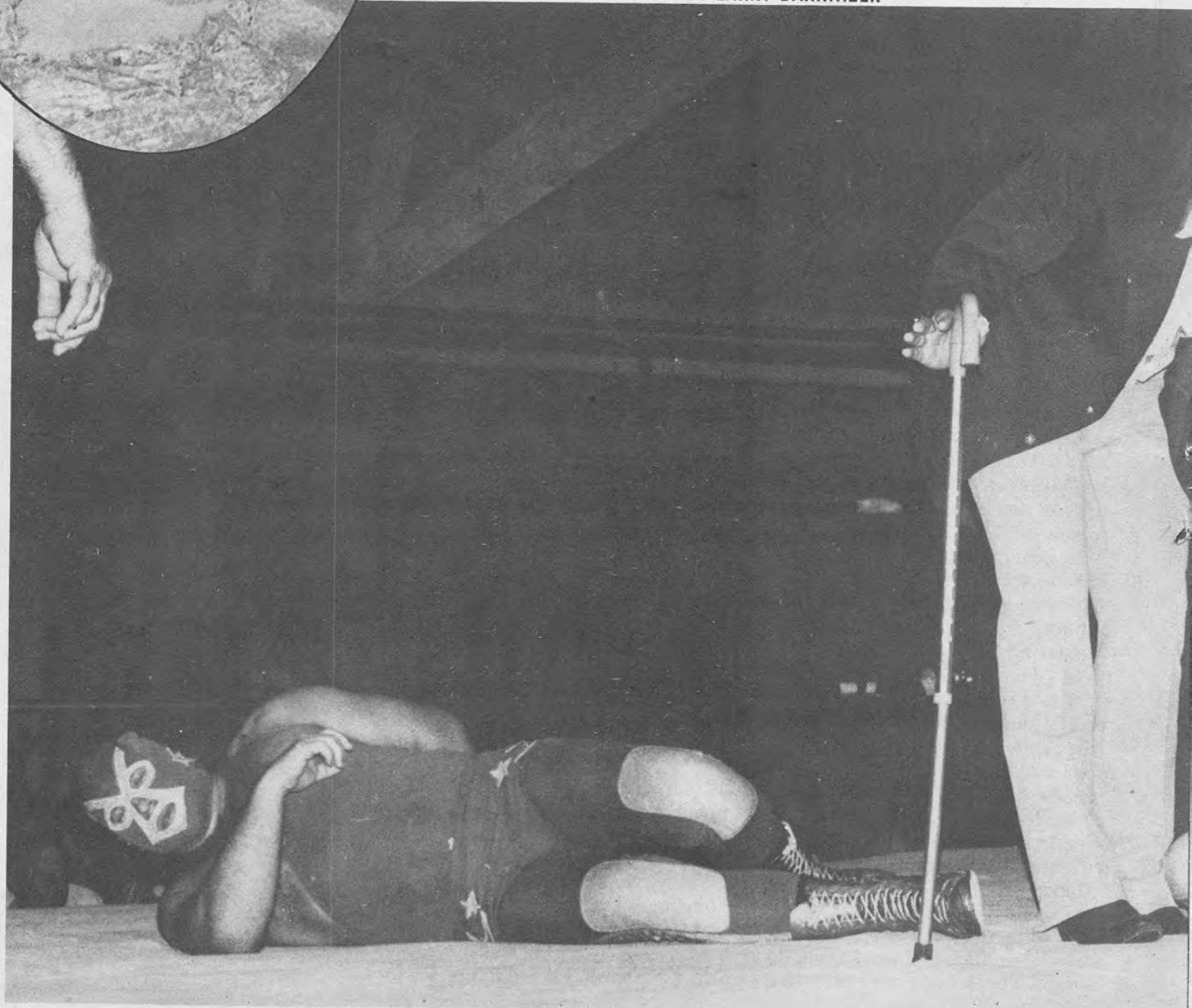


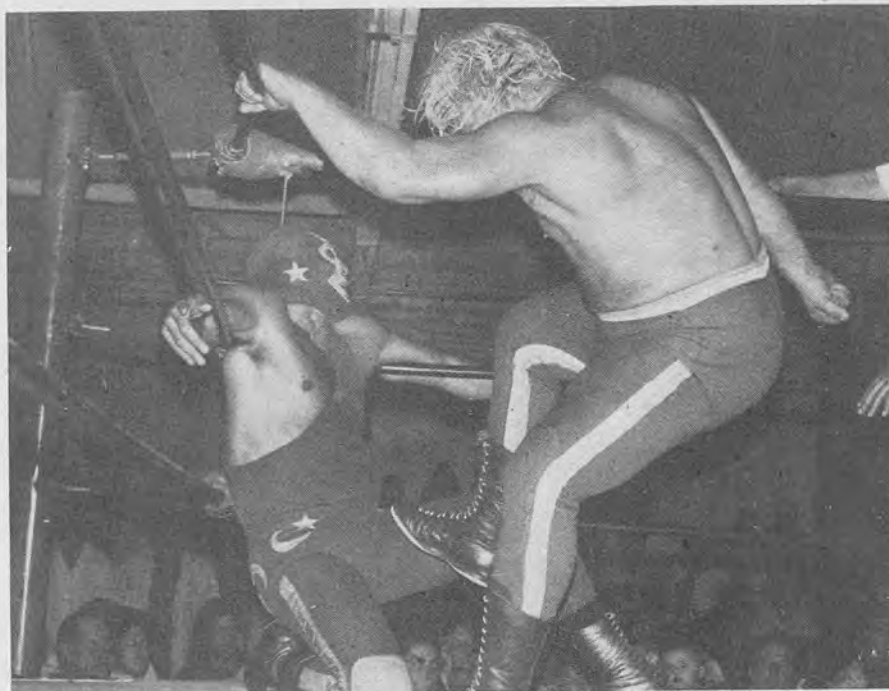
MOONDOG MAYNE-- WRESTLING'S ONE MAN GANG



Moondog Mayne is trying desperately to prove to the fans he has reformed. But when he took on The Invaders alone, his quest almost cost him his life!

PHOTOS BY LARRY BARNHIZER





Above: Mayne kicks wildly at the belly of his foe. Below: Grabbing an Invader by the mask, Mayne sends him hurtling across the mat in early action.

FOR A LONG time, Moondog Mayne allied himself with rule-breakers. In fact, he was probably the most reprehensible villain of all. To many, his name was synonymous with brutal savagery.

No one knows this better than Mayne. Since making the monumental decision to become a fan favorite, he has found a large segment of the fans refusing to accept the change. They believe he is waiting to turn on his new friends and rejoin his old cronies.

Because of this, Mayne feels incredible pressure to prove himself. He switched allegiances to hear the fans cheer for him. Until he hears their unanimous cheers at his entrance, Mayne won't be satisfied.

Moondog is not one to wait around for what he wants. Consideration of life and limb is not a major concern for Moondog; he would rather be crippled in pursuit of his goal than take an easy way out. However, his current quest may lead to tragedy.

To overcome the fans' understandable distrust, Mayne decided to take great risks against the rule-breakers he faces. One of his most astonishing feats was to take on The Masked Invaders almost single-handedly. It was a foolhardy match, something no intelligent professional would attempt. But people have long since stopped trying to understand what makes Moondog think he can accomplish the impossible. Most startling of all, he came very close to defeating the Invaders singlehandedly!

For the record, Pedro Morales was Moondog's partner when he took on the tag team. For Pedro, it was a night spent watching instead of wrestling. Mayne never even considered tagging Morales!

For more than 20 minutes, Mayne took on both Invaders, allowing himself to be doubleteamed to prove his point. They did everything in their power. As they failed to stop him, their rage grew. Only a man possessed by some special power could withstand such punishment willingly. And only a man of Moondog's skill could so often send the Invaders reeling.

It was the referee who decided to end the contest. Terrified Moondog could be killed in his strange quest, the referee disqualified The Masked Invaders for doubleteaming. In

(Continued on page 60)

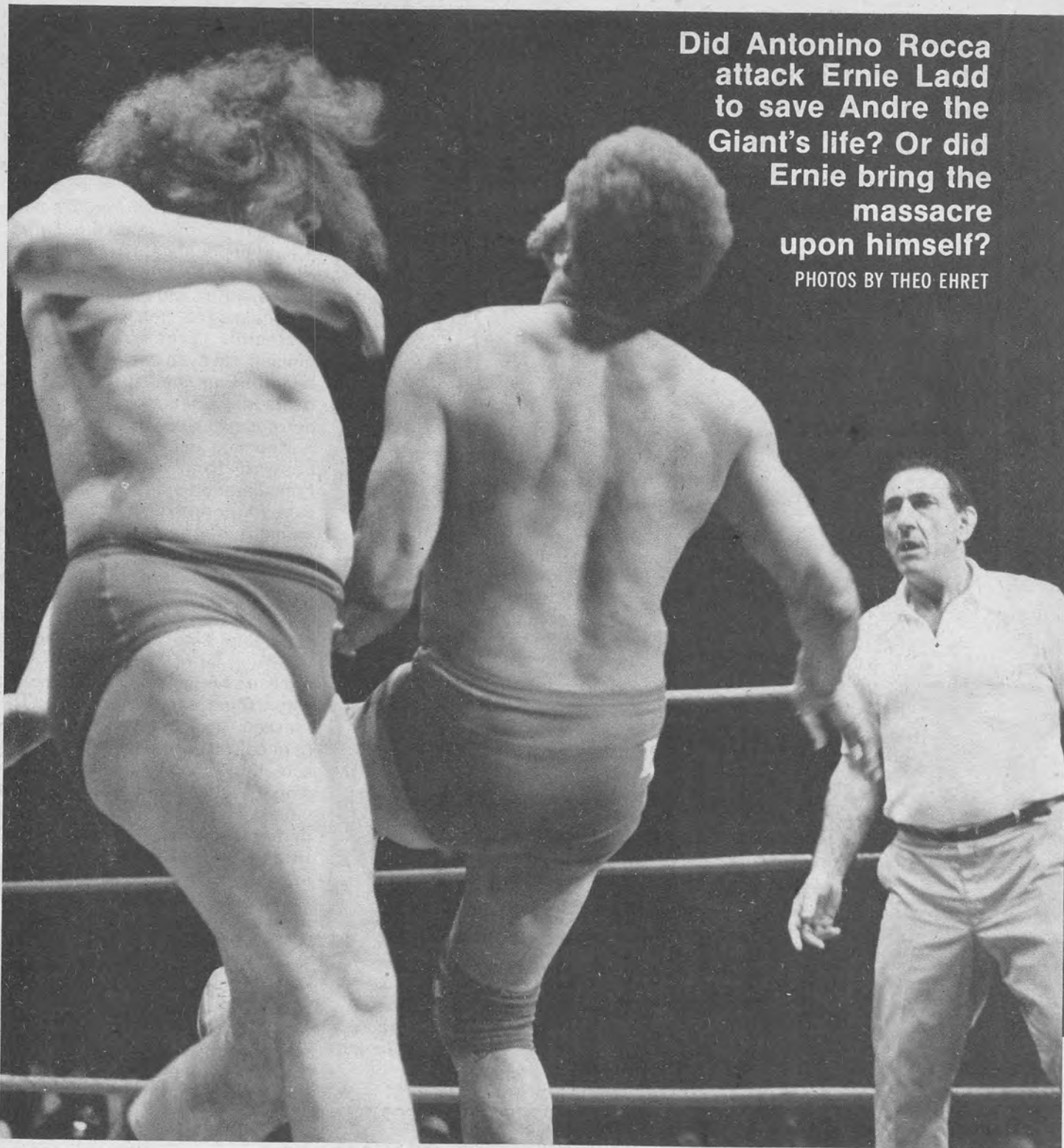


Left: Manager Gerhardt Kaiser congratulates his weary mat warriors, The Masked Invaders. Below: Mayne's powerful fingers tear at the mask of his foe, trying to reveal his identity.

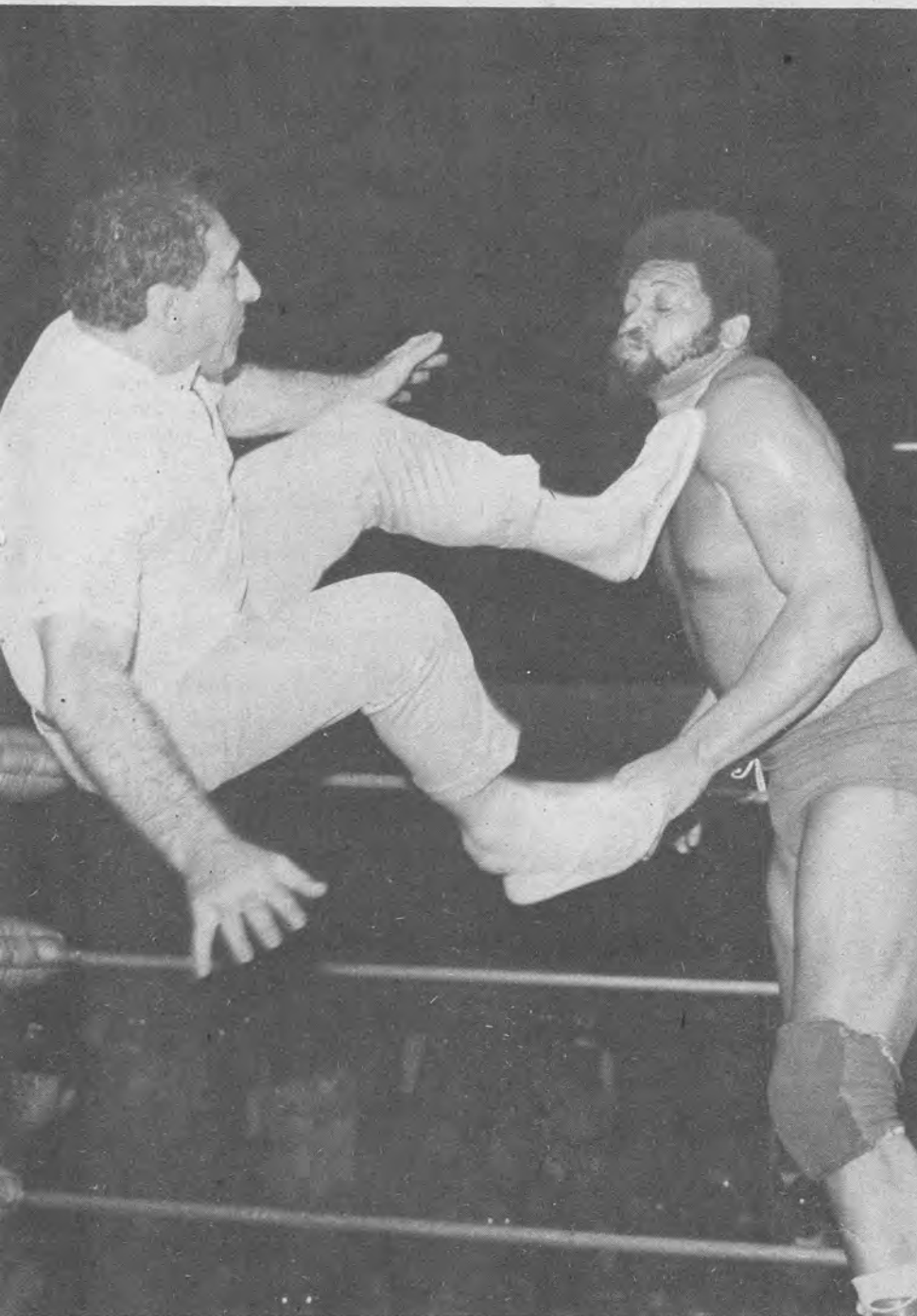


Did Antonino Rocca
attack Ernie Ladd
to save Andre the
Giant's life? Or did
Ernie bring the
massacre
upon himself?

PHOTOS BY THEO EHRET



THE NIGHT ANDRE TO BE SAVED FR



Andre and Ernie Ladd rush each other and collide (left, opposite page) late in the match. The rush weakened Andre more than it did Ernie, although the behemoth grappler continued to wage furious war against Ladd. But was this the moment when Antonino Rocca decides to interfere to aid the weakened Andre the Giant (above)?

ON RUBBERY LEGS, a weakened Ernie Ladd stumbled across the canvas. His glassy eyes betrayed the pain running through his body. This powerful grappler was as helpless as a sleeping babe.

Ladd was the only man left in the ring. His opponent and the referee had long since left for the dressing room—together. Each had participated in the battering Ladd received. Guest referee Antonino Rocca had pummeled Ladd as the grappler lay trapped in the ropes. Prior to the beating, Ernie had brawled against Andre the Giant. Those two would render any man on earth senseless!

A security policeman climbed through the ropes and aided the gargantuan Ladd back to his dressing room. Ernie gratefully accepted the assistance; he was too weak to be proud.

The door to the dressing room was locked behind Ladd. The press waited outside. Sooner or later Ernie would have to emerge, ready to give one hell of a story when his senses returned.

Reporters used the time to prepare questions. They thought back upon the match. The Ladd and Andre brawl had been promoted as "The Battle of the Giants!" The bout more than lived up to its promise; it was an awesome exhibition of grappling savagery.

Many times during the match, special referee Rocca warned Ladd about using illegal tactics. The fans, most of whom fondly remembered Rocca's many great matches, loudly booed Ladd's claims of innocence. The crude insults Ernie hurled at Rocca were also heard by the fans. Even those few who didn't remember Rocca were soon outraged at Ladd's slanders and

(Continued on page 56)

THE GIANT HAD OM ERNIE LADD!

REVEALED FOR T

IN EASTERN ARENAS you can often hear the name of a wrestler who is not scheduled to appear mentioned; in fact, he is not even in the area. The loyal eastern fans are discussing Chief Jay Strongbow, hoping for his quick return.

They wonder how well Jay is

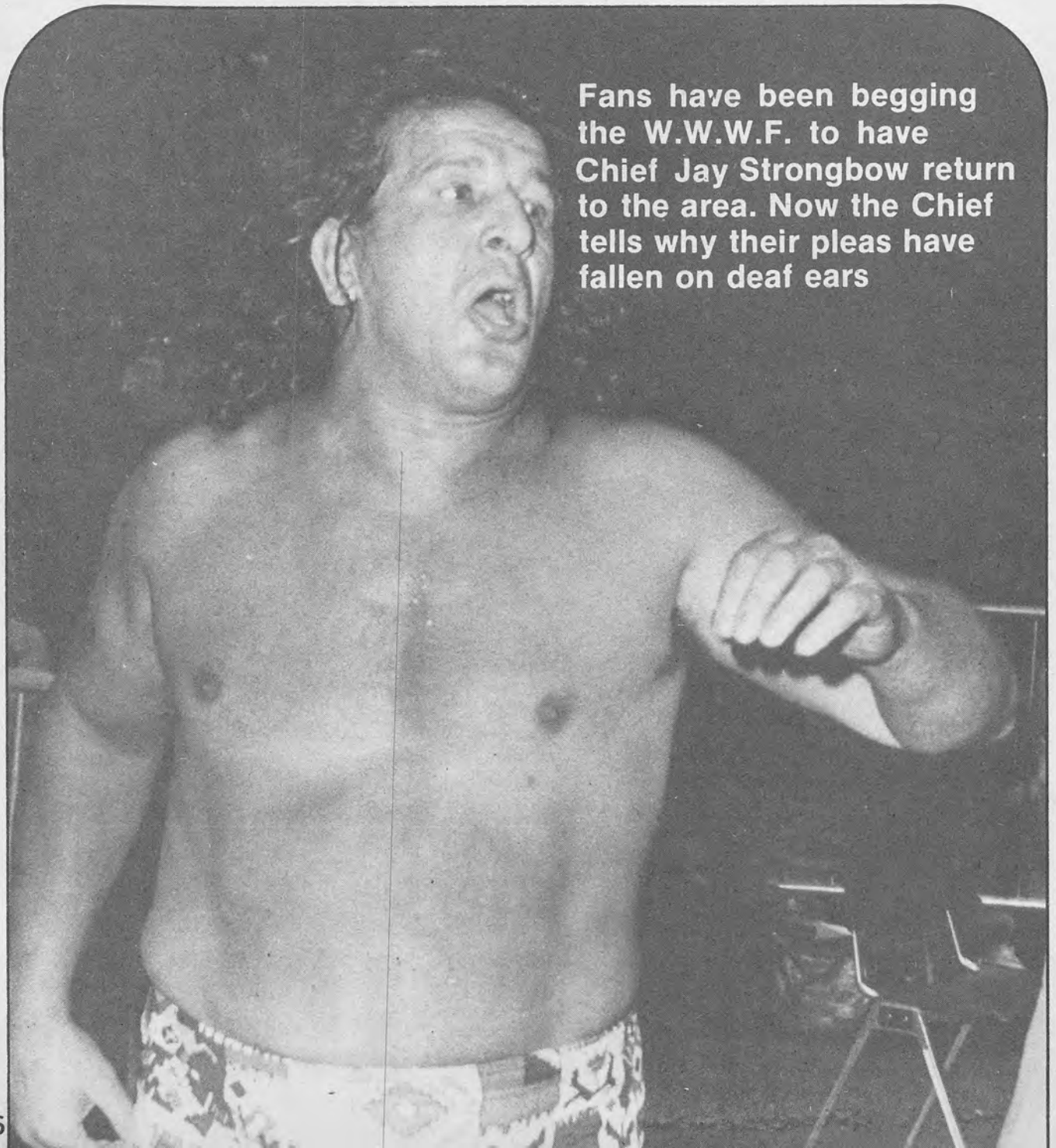
faring down south and whether he is enjoying the same success and popularity he experienced in the W.W.W.F. Now that he is wrestling under the banner of the N.W.A., the fans hope his greatness is being appreciated.

Letters pour into the W.W.W.F.

headquarters asking if Strongbow intends to return to the area in the near future. Letters are also sent to the popular mat star in care of southern arenas. The fans want to plead directly with Jay to return.

"Please come back east," Wesley Bumicelli recently implored in a

Fans have been begging the W.W.W.F. to have Chief Jay Strongbow return to the area. Now the Chief tells why their pleas have fallen on deaf ears



THE FIRST TIME-- WHY CHIEF JAY STRONGBOW LEFT THE W.W.W.F.

Chief Jay Strongbow (left, opposite page) is happy to remain in the south. He has no plans to return to the northeastern mat wars and resume battling his old enemies. However, the fans want to see him in action against men like notorious Lou Albano (below).



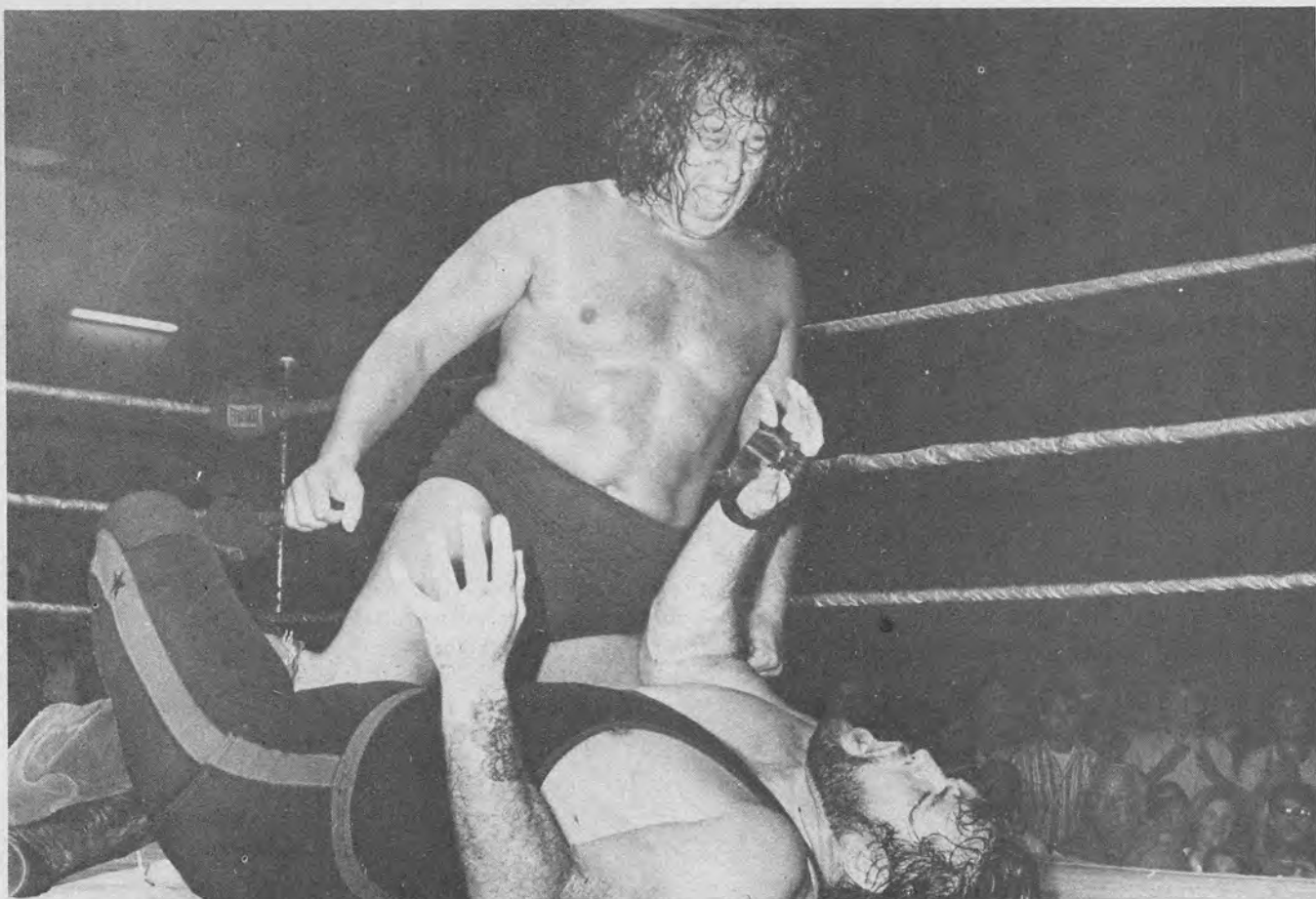
letter. "You're my favorite wrestler. No matter how great the matches, I'm always disappointed because you're no longer here. It doesn't seem to be wrestling without Chief Jay Strongbow. I'd do almost anything to see you go into your war dance once again!"

Strongbow receives many letters daily which say almost the same thing. There are times when Jay is so moved by a letter he is ready to travel north as soon as possible. Then he reflects a moment and doesn't pack his bags. Strongbow left for certain reasons and nothing has changed.

Relaxing on his ranch, Jay seems content to be where he is. Able to spend most of his time with his family, he is enjoying the daily affairs of managing a household. He no longer has to settle for brief moments of time with his wife and children; wrestling in the same state as his ranch is a pleasure he will not soon sacrifice.

"When I was east," he recalls, "most of the time with my family was spent over a telephone. I never got to see them half as much as I wanted. Wrestling down south, I've got my family near me all the time. I'd almost forgotten what a thrill it is to feel your own land under your feet.

"I belong here. I know that now. Getting up to see the sunrise over my ranch, watching my good land spring to life, that's what it's all about. Chief Jay Strongbow has



Above: Fans rise to their feet in joy when Strongbow, weak and battered himself, makes Spoiler surrender. All wrestling fans in the northeast have similar memories of Strongbow's great accomplishments. Left: Jay is a great tag team partner and held the W.W.W.F. tag team belt with the remarkable Sonny King.



come home."

This doesn't mean Jay has any intention of deserting the wrestling arenas.

"First and foremost," Jay says, "I still consider myself a professional wrestler. The finest thing a man can be is a grappler. I'll continue doing this until I die!

"Here though, I have the best of all possible worlds. I can be with my family, work my ranch, and pursue wrestling. What more can a man

ask for?"

A man could ask to be wrestling champion of the world. One of the most notorious controversies in W.W.W.F. history was over the inability of Strongbow to get a title shot. He would defeat men who would then go on to title shots, yet he never was given that special honor himself. Did this unexplained slight have anything to do with Jay's decision to move on to other pastures?

Jay hesitates before answering this question; it is important for him to choose his words correctly.

"Not getting a championship shot," Jay says carefully, "is not the major factor behind my move. Other reasons were more important. My family and ranch mean more to me than any title.

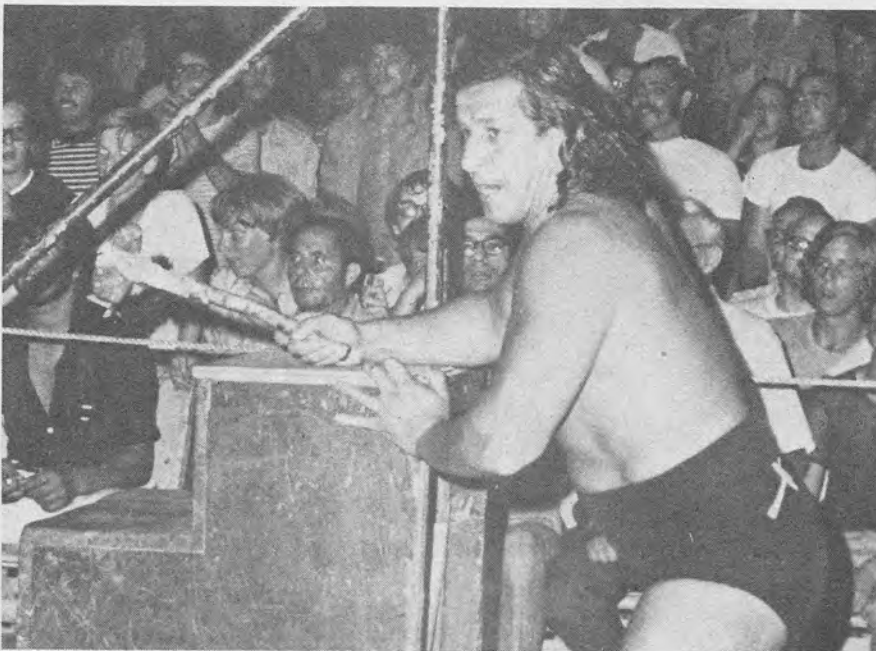
"But I've got to be honest with the fans—they deserve no less. I admit one of the reasons I left was because I felt no hope of ever wrestling for the championship. In the N.W.A., the practice is to give every deserving grappler a chance at the title. The W.W.W.F. feels no such obligation."

Jay does have some regrets about leaving, though.

"The fans were wonderful to me," he says. "I'll never forget their



Against George Steele, Jay is ruthlessly choked with a belt (above), forced to defend his life with a tomahawk (left), and jabs at Steele with a cane (below). Brawls like these made Strongbow a fan favorite!



loyalty and cheers. Leaving them was the most difficult thing I've ever done.

"There are so many great memories I have of these fans I couldn't begin to name them all.

Their letters have touched me as no professional compliment ever has. I'd rather a fan tells me I did well than hear it from any colleague or reporter.

"I appreciate them asking me to

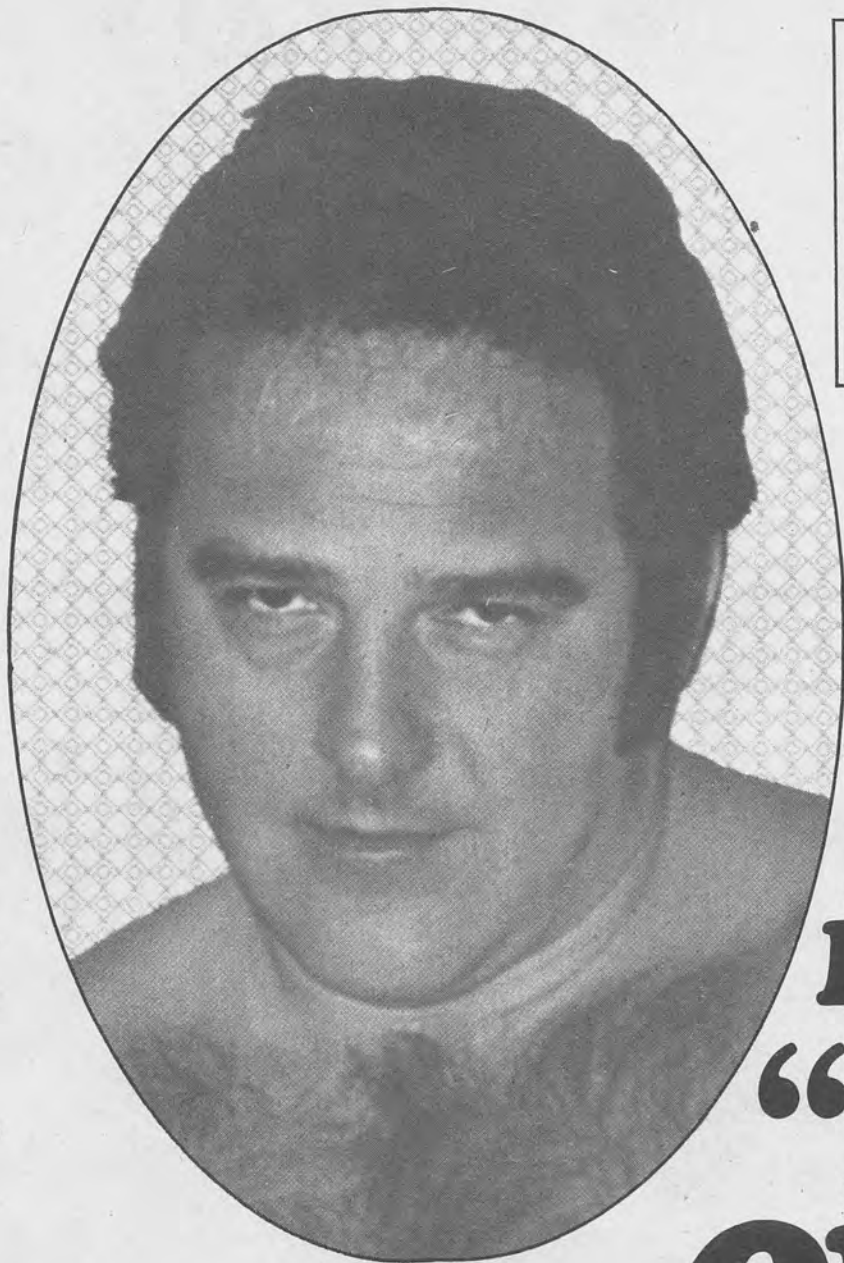


return. Perhaps I will. I'd do almost anything for those loyal fans. But as of now, I'm happy where I am."

Chief Jay Strongbow is a happy man. It's his fans in the east who are heartbroken.

□

WRESTLER ON THE "HOTSEAT"



***H**ES ONE OF wrestling's most popular stars. Teaming with Don Curtis in the mid-60s, he became the idol of mat fans all over the world. The team eventually split at the height of its popularity so each could pursue his individual goal. He went abroad while Curtis stayed in the United States. He stayed abroad for several years and is now back in the USA. He is Mark Lewin.*

**MARK
LEWIN:
"I'M
ON MY**

The "Hotseat" is not a comfortable place to be. When we put a wrestler on the "Hotseat" we interview him. But it is more than just an interview. It is a no-holds-barred question and answer forum that probes beyond the obvious and seeks to find out what others are afraid to ask. The "Hotseat" pulls no punches and plays no favorites. It is the kind of in-depth feature you'll find nowhere else!



Above: A bloody Lewin continues to grapple despite his wounds.

Left: Taking the plastic knife from Sheik, Lewin jabs at his notorious opponent. When Mark meets Sheik, it's always a war!

Below: Mark tortures Destroyer with his excruciating headlock.

Q: Welcome to the "Hotseat," Mark.

A: Thank you. It's a real pleasure being here.

Q: Okay, let's begin the questioning by delving into your past.

A: I bet you want to talk about the days I teamed with Don Curtis.

Q: How did you know?

A: That seems to be the first thing every reporter wants to talk about when he interviews me.

Q: Exactly why did you and Don, probably the most popular team ever, decide to split up?

A: Well, that's a long story.

Q: Start at the beginning please.

A: All right. Don and I were together for six, maybe seven years. In all that time I can honestly say we never had a difference of opinion.

Q: That is a rare thing when it comes to tag team wrestling.

A: It sure is. So many guys start together and the team never works out because of personal frictions and other factors that develop. With Don and me it was different.

Q: Why?

A: For one thing, we come from the same town, Buffalo, New York. He wrestled for the University of Buffalo. I can remember going out and watching him train with former world champion Ed Don George. We played football for opposing schools. . .

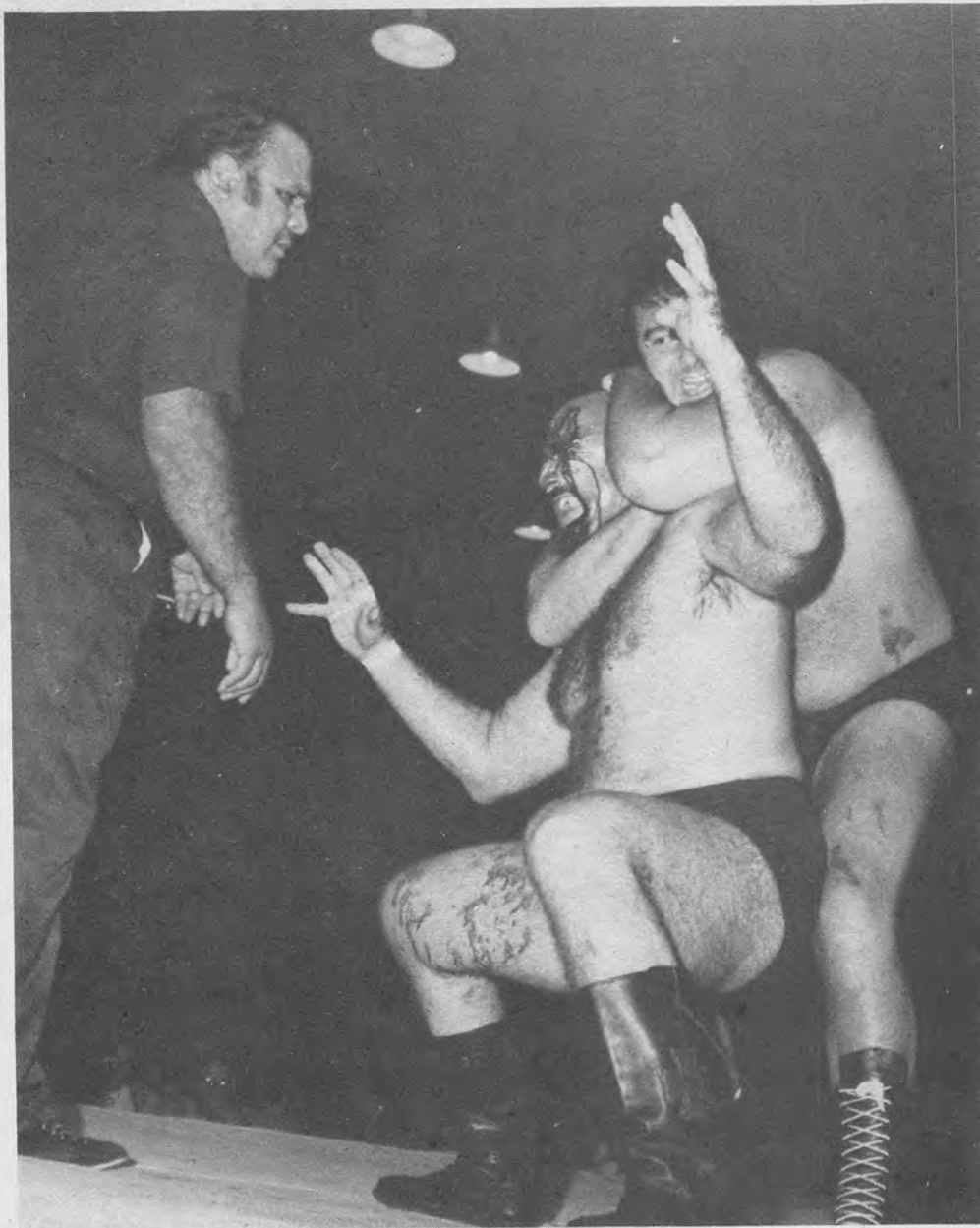
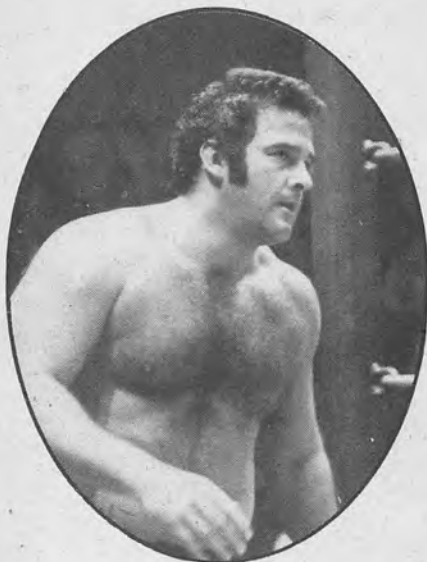
Q: So even when you didn't know Don well, there was a competitive spirit developing between you two.

A: That's correct. Later on, as we



OWN, NOW"

"I HAVE DONE SOME THINGS IN MY CAREER I REGRET"



Though outside the ring, Lewin continues to torment Seig Stanke (left). Stanke is woozy from the fall. He landed on his head and split his scalp. When the two return to the mat, Mark puts the bleeding and groggy Stanke in a sleeper hold (above). This is Mark's favorite hold and one from which there is no real escape!

became friends, we played handball together, we vacationed together and then we began to train as wrestlers together.

Q: Just how close did you and Don become?

A: Very close. We would vacation together, go hunting together. Where there was Mark Lewin you could find Don Curtis. We even doubled dated together. We were like bacon 'n eggs, so to say!

Q: But why did you two split, Mark? What was the reason for it?

A: The travel bug bit me. I wanted to go overseas. Don didn't. He had an opportunity to get into pro-

motion in the Florida area. So that is how it happened. Our individual goals finally got the better of us.

Q: How did both of you take the split?

A: We hated it. But we were certain we would team again soon. We thought his business would only tie him up full time for three months or so. And I thought I would soon return from my travels abroad. Well, I stayed almost eight years. Meanwhile he got deeply involved in the promotion business.

Q: When did you see Don again?

A: About two years ago. I called Florida promoters letting them



In the heyday of their tag team fame, if Lewin was in trouble, he could count on Don Curtis to help him out. No opponent was able to cheat against them and get away with it! Today, Mark realizes Curtis is no longer in his corner to help out. He has been forced to make the adjustment from tag team to solo—a very tough task.

know I would be returning from abroad and was available to wrestle. It had been eight years. We were happy to see one another.

Q: Let's move on to another subject. Many times when you were wrestling in Japan and Australia, you were forced, by promotional problems, to team with guys you hate. What was your reaction to this?

A: I never liked being a partner with guys with which I've had vendettas. You have to watch them as carefully as your opponents, hoping they won't do a sneak attack and try to injure you.

Q: Has that ever happened?

A: Yes. One time I was forced into teaming with King Curtis.

Q: He is one of your most hated rivals, isn't he?

A: You bet. We started battling among ourselves and almost crippled each other.

Q: Are there any other wrestlers you feel such a deep animosity toward?

A: The Sheik. He has hurt more people in wrestling than anyone else.

Q: Mark, are you two-faced?

A: What do you mean?

Q: At one time you were loved by the fans. Then you became a rule-

"TAG TEAM WRESTLING DID HOLD ME BACK IN SOME WAYS"



breaker. Now you have returned to wrestling by the rules again. Can you explain this?

A: I think everybody's life is mixed. I have done some things in my career I regret. Everyone has done things they later regret. I try not to look back to those days when I changed my tactics. In the last few years I have dedicated myself to being a good wrestler. Wrestling is my whole life. In no way do I want to mar what I've accomplished. I now wrestle for the people. I only wrestled against them for a very short time. I didn't like it. And I hope all those who were hurt when I changed tactics will forgive me and back me again.

Q: Would you ever go back to being a bad guy again?

A: I don't think so. It is something I never want to happen again. I mean anything is possible, but I'm trying my hardest to prevent something like that from occurring.

Q: Mark, you have been involved in tag team bouts almost all your career. Do you regret that?

A: Not really. But I'm on my own now. And I'm glad. Tag team wrestling did hold me back in some ways. I didn't go after single titles. But now I will.

Q: Which titles interest you most?

A: The recognized world belts: Bruno's, Brisco's, and Gagne's.

Q: Thanks for joining us, Mark.

A: It's been my pleasure. □



PHOTOS BY DAVID MCLANE

ALL GREAT CONFRONTATIONS are preceded by conflicting rumors. A championship wrestling match is no different. Two people will tell two different stories about a wrestler's condition and

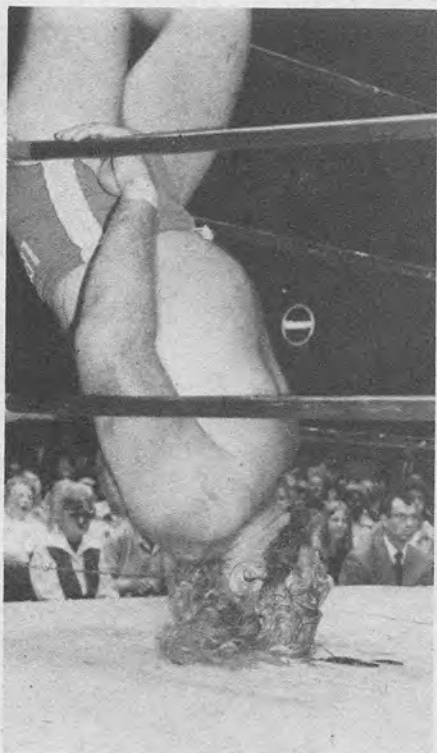
each will swear it is the truth. The unpredictability of an athletic contest is perfect for causing rumors to grow. When no one knows the outcome, who can tell for certain what is right or what is

wrong? Even after the battle, rumors are examined to see if they can shed some light on the result.

Bruiser and Crusher vs. The Legionnaires for the W.W.A. championship was a match with

CRUSHER AND BRUISER'S BLOODY SWEEP TO THE TITLE

The Legionnaires thought they could ride roughshod over Crusher and Bruiser. It took a battering and bloodying to show them their error



Left, opposite page: Crusher and Bruiser are determined before the match. Above: In the corner, Jacques Goulet's blood stains the mat. Right: Grabbing a broom, Bruiser gets a Legionnaire and chokes hard!

more than its share of conflicting "facts." One could hear from those who knew "for certain!" The Legionnaires either had not trained at all or they had not left the gym, training so long and so hard.

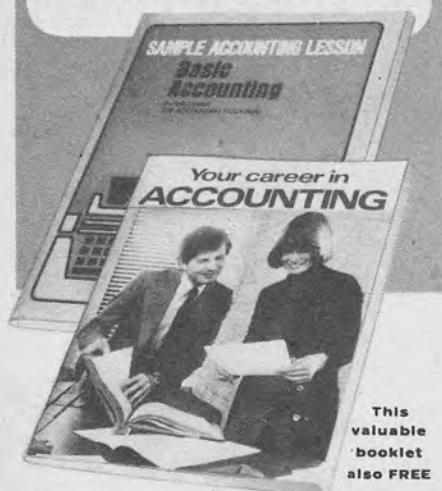
There were also rumors about Crusher and Bruiser. One person swore he saw a medical report saying the two men, due to their intensified schedule after winning the A.W.A. tag team belts, were in a state of nervous exhaustion. Another had watched the workouts and reported the team never seemed so relaxed and sharp.

All four men were aware of the conflicting reports surrounding this tag team title bout. They were a bit surprised at the amount. None had ever seen so many different stories fly so thick and fast. Also, everyone was amazed at the intensity people believed each new story. A mark of a match's importance is how deeply fans wanted to seem in the know

(Continued on page 64)



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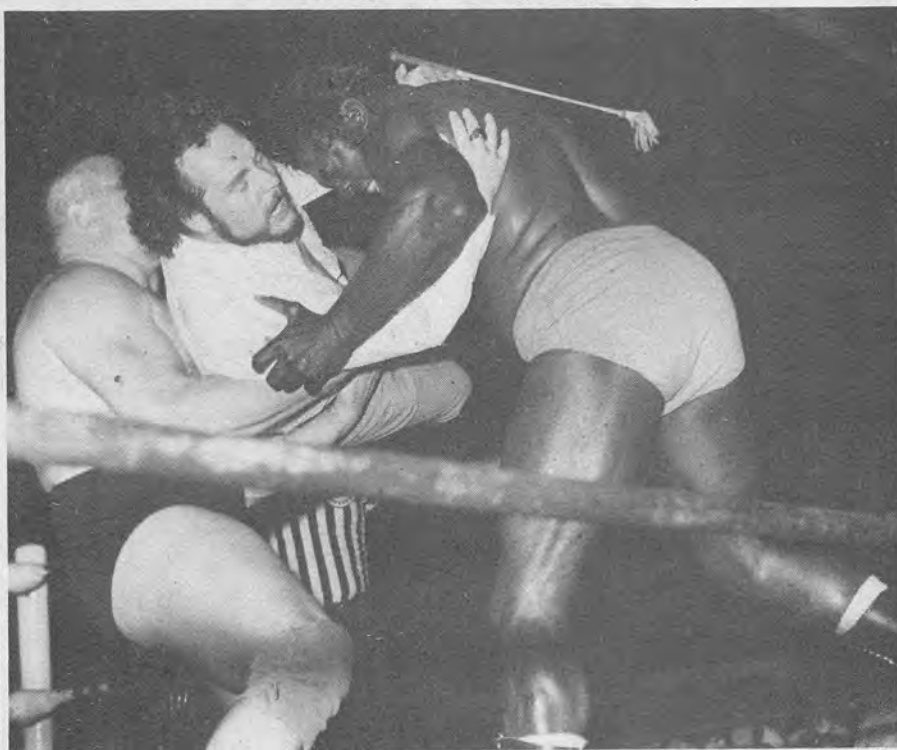
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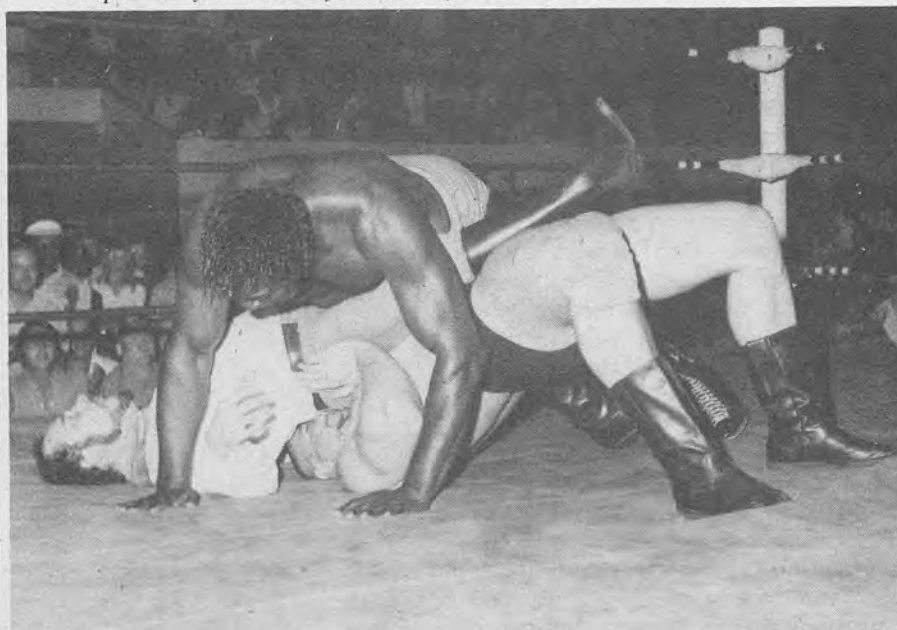
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RETURN OF BOBO BRAZIL

(Continued from Page 31)



Above: After Clements decides to interfere on Nikolai's behalf, Bobo forces wrestler and manager into the corner. The collision left Clements a stumbling, groggy man, barely conscious. Below: In a magnificent exhibition of grappling virtuosity, Brazil has both Clements and Volkoff pinned on the canvas. The two men did escape—only to run as fast as they could to the dressing room!



matches. Bobo Brazil is on the road again!"

Fans could not have been happier when Bobo put on his traveling shoes. When he entered the arena, the cheers were ear-shattering. The pleasure on the faces of the fans seeing Bobo was a

sight to behold. Bobo saw them and his smile could have lit up a city block. He may not have been home, but he was among friends!

Only two people were unhappy at Bobo's entrance. They were Nikolai Volkoff and his manager, Sir Dudley



Nikolai Volkoff lifts his wily manager, Sir Dudley Clements, high in the air. Later in the evening they would be fleeing together from great Bobo Brazil.

Clements. Volkoff had been enraged by the thunderous ovation for Brazil. He became determined to make those cheers choke in the fans' throats. And Nikolai didn't care if Clements did his dirty best to help.

In the first few minutes, Bobo executed many excellent maneuvers only to have Clements interfere and save his wrestler. Brazil grew angrier and angrier. Finally, he dragged Clements over the ropes and faced both wrestler and manager.

Neither Clements nor Volkoff liked this idea. The look of hatred in Bobo's eyes told them this was no night to stick around. Volkoff's determination to conquer vanished into a pool of fear. Manager and grappler tried to run but Brazil caught them.

It was a magnificent display of wrestling greatness. Bobo battered both men senseless. He cleverly used their stumbling bodies against one another. They were doomed and finally fled to the dressing room, glad to be gone!

It was a glorious ending for the triumphant return of Bobo Brazil! □



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SINGERLY YOURS

(Continued from Page 12)



Above: George Steele rubs the neck of Bruno Sammartino across the ring ropes. Should a man who does this be allowed to write his version of the bout?

belt! Until such time, we must admire Donna for her great ability and ethics without a championship.

LINDSAY COLE
Perth, Australia

END IT

Someone must put an end to the "Wrestling Earthquake That Rocked California" (INSIDE WRESTLING/December 1975). It must be determined who Hiroshima Joe really is. Until that time, it will have to be assumed Greg Valentine and Sir Oliver Humperdink are lying.

If Greg is not Hiroshima Joe, then why doesn't he tell the world the true identity of the masked wrestler? Twice being revealed as Joe, plus the fake picture he sent to the press, does not make his denial sound credible.

The truth must emerge in the end!

MARTIN COOPER
Irvine, California

IN THEIR OWN WRITE

After reading "George Steele's Claim: 'Bruno's Time Is Up!' (INSIDE WRESTLING/November 1975), I almost died laughing! I think all professional wrestlers should be given the opportunity and privilege of

writing a story for INSIDE WRESTLING or THE WRESTLER.

Whether they be rule abiders or rule breakers, I think it would be very interesting to give wrestlers a chance to reveal their version of a particular match or highly controversial situation.

I'm looking forward to seeing many more self-written articles by wrestlers themselves in both INSIDE WRESTLING and THE WRESTLER.

LINDA WHITE
Mastic Beach, New York

LEARNED TOO LATE

Ox Baker got what he deserved when he learned to "Never Challenge Bruiser To A Street Fight" (INSIDE



Ox Baker tries to get to his feet during a wild streetfight brawl against Bruiser (above). Fans say Baker should know not to get Bruiser in a streetfight!

WRESTLING/December 1975).

Baker, whose reputation for using dirty tactics has become increasingly worse, deserved the punishment he received at Bruiser's hands. He would be nothing more than a fool to think he could exact revenge in a rematch. It would only prove once again Baker is no match for the great Bruiser!

RAYMOND HILL
Terre Haute, Indiana

TRY AGAIN

Alberto Madrill should have realized he still needs more time and more experience before he takes on a notorious wrestler like John Tolos (INSIDE WRESTLING/November 1975).

Madrill needs to develop skills in order to defend himself against the kinds of dirty tactics Tolos is so fond of using whenever he gets the chance. The man is mean, and Madrill is too trusting. In time, he will develop a defense against people like Tolos. Until he does, he should keep away from John!

SARAH JANE BECKNER
Ft. Worth, Texas

MIL BY A MILE

I would like to add one more opinion to the many you collected from the fans of Mil Mascaras (INSIDE WRESTLING/December 1975). I think Mil is the best wrestler in the sport today.

His mask intrigues me. I think I would be almost disappointed if I ever found out what he looks like.

ALEX FELIX
Columbia, Missouri ☐

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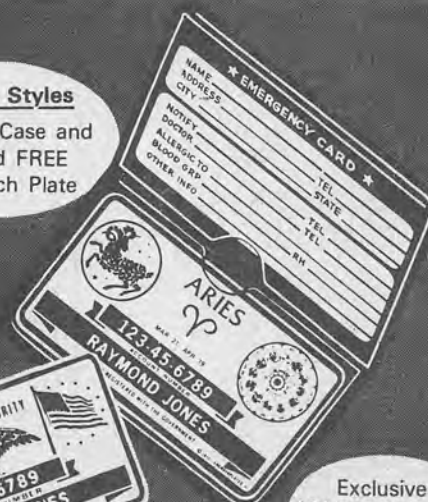
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VICKI WILLIAMS

(Continued from Page 21)



Vicki Williams is helpless to prevent being dragged across the canvas by a cruel Donna Christenello. Has the dynamic blonde battler suffered too much disappointment in her career to struggle back and regain the drive needed to turn defeat into victory?

among the most exciting in the history of women's wrestling. But the match that night could not have qualified as even a good bout.

The problems began before the match started. Donna appeared before the crowd first. Then Vicki appeared. The fans in the arena gave her a standing ovation. But Vicki barely acknowledged the cheering spectators, as if her mind was somewhere else.

Many of Vicki's friends had advised her not to wrestle that night. She had just lost a close title match with The Fabulous Moolah two days before. Her friends told her she was not prepared psychologically to do battle so soon after her disappointing loss. "I told her she needed time to recover and rethink her plans," said one of her friends. "It was just too soon to go back and grapple again. She didn't want to listen."

Vicki's real problems began once the match got underway. As soon as the bell rang, Donna lunged at Vicki and pulled her to the mat. From that

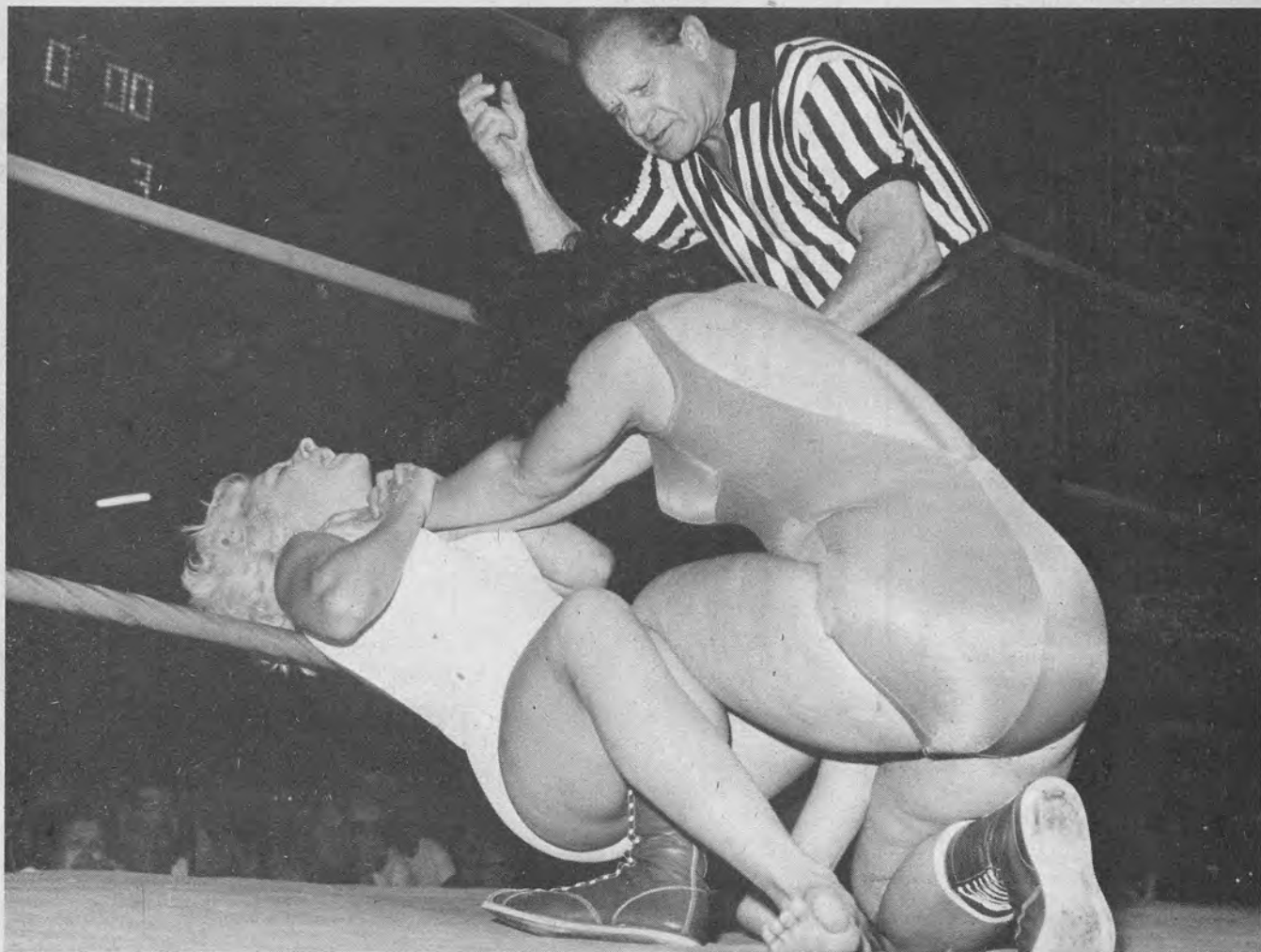
point on it was Donna's match.

No one who was watching could figure out what was going on. It seemed Vicki was offering little resistance to Donna's holds. It seemed as if Vicki was resigned to let this match run its course.

And Donna took advantage of the situation. She would force Vicki down to the mat every time she could. Vicki would escape from these holds, but just by sheer luck. It looked like Donna was going to win this match.

But Donna pressed her luck and went a bit too far. Being a little too overanxious to finish off her opponent and go home a victor, she started employing any tactic she could think of to bring Vicki down. Donna pulled Vicki toward the ropes, thinking she could finish her off quickly in this position. But then the referee stepped in and disqualified Donna for using an illegal hold.

The spectators did not react to the referee's decision. They were just too shocked by the events leading



Above: The referee commands Donna to stop choking Vicki, who has fallen against the ropes. Donna usually escapes from such holds without official aid. Did her losses to Moolah rob Vicki's strong motivation to win? Below: As Vicki lies helplessly on the canvas, Donna stomps her victim's arm. The pain this causes to the muscle in the forearm is incredible. It takes many weeks to recover.



up to it to say anything. And they all wondered what was wrong with Vicki Williams.

Sitting in her dressing room after the match, Vicki reflected on what had happened that night.

"I guess I just wasn't with it," she said. "My friends had advised me not to go into this match tonight. I was really upset about the loss to Moolah the other night. My heart just wasn't with this bout.

"But I want to make this promise to all of my fans: I will be back soon as good or better than I was before. I hope that they will forgive me for what happened tonight. I promise it will not happen again. I know now that I should not have let one match upset me so much.

"And I will wrestle Moolah again for the championship. I think the experience tonight has strengthened me, not weakened me. Her days as world champion are numbered. It will soon be my time!"

With her determination renewed, Vicki seems to be doing better again. Her attitude has improved and she seems ready to take on another challenge.

Moolah—watch out!

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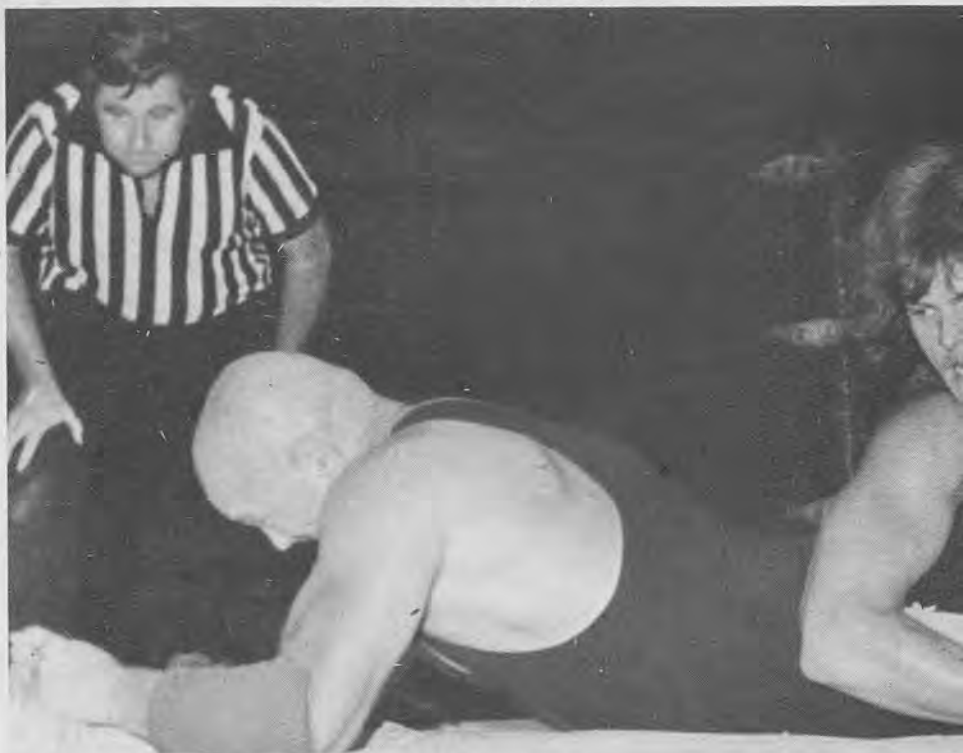
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ROBERT FULLER

(Continued from Page 18)



Above: Fuller
tortures Von
Heller in a
perfectly done
toehold late in
battle. Only a
superhuman move
by Otto allowed
his escape; it
slowed Otto for
the rest of the
bout, however.
Right: Otto is
right on target
for a kick to
Fuller's chest.



dare. "I'll show those girl fans who is
the better wrestler. Anyway, I'm a lot
more handsome than that little upstart
is. After I finish him off—and that
should take very little time—all the
girls will be throwing flowers at me!"

But Fuller was not too worried
about Otto. "His basic problem,"
Robert explained, "is that he's jealous
of all the adoration I get. I don't ask for
it—it just happens. But I live up to my
fans' expectations. Von Heller is going
to have a lot of problems when we do
battle, I can promise that!"

The match began the way most of
Fuller's matches begin nowadays, with
the women in the audience throwing
flowers at his feet. Robert smiled and

waved at them, but Von Heller
growled. He was getting angrier every
minute. As soon as the bell rang he tore
into Robert.

Von Heller grabbed Fuller's long
hair and pulled the young man to the
floor. Otto screamed to his opponent,
"Now I'm going to finish you off!" But
instead of Von Heller being able to
carry through his vicious threat, he
was surprised by Fuller, who reversed
the hold and soon had Otto on the mat.

Scrambling to his feet Robert
grabbed Von Heller's foot and started
shoving his opponent's knee into his
chest. Otto screamed in agony. Then
the handsome young grappler flipped
Von Heller onto his stomach.



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OPPOSITE OF NO

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The spectators went wild with excitement. Fuller loosened his grip on Von Heller for a second, and Otto seized the opportunity to escape. Robert ran after his opponent, but Von Heller was running too quickly. He jumped over the ropes and back to the dressing room. The referee had no choice but to disqualify Otto and give the match to Fuller.

Back in the dressing room, Von Heller tried to hide from everyone. When it became clear to him that he would have to make a statement to the press, he said, "It wasn't fair. He used dirty tactics against me. I know he did!"

When Robert heard this he was enraged. "I won that match," he said to reporters, "and now Von Heller is trying to make excuses for his loss. It must now be clear to everyone that I'm the better wrestler. Von Heller will just have to accept that fact. Anyway, it was obvious he ran away from me!"

Since that night, Otto Von Heller has tried to avoid seeing Fuller, especially at the beginning of a match, when the women throw flowers at the young grappler.

Is it jealousy that makes Otto avoid Fuller? Von Heller denies this. He says, "I have no reason to be jealous of that dirty little boy."

"I just don't like him!"



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NELSON ROYAL

(Continued from Page 25)



Above: Eric the Red gets Royal out of the ring. Below: George Cannon interferes and pummels Nelson. Bottom: Cannon is seen holding a rope which he intends using against Nelson Royal.



threatened him, but the referee could not be found. Eric and George then came into the arena, and George still had the rope in his hands. Nelson tried to wrest the rope from Cannon in order to show it to the referee.

But Cannon would not let go of the rope. He ordered Eric the Red to assist him from inside the ring, and the two of them started beating the defenseless Royal. The special police had to be brought in to break up the brawl.

When order was finally restored, the match got underway. The first few minutes were not too eventful—Eric spent most of the time trying to avoid any contact with Nelson. Finally, Royal got fed up. He launched a full attack against his opponent.

While Eric was leaning against the ropes, Nelson dived towards the large grappler and forced him to the mat. Eric tried to wriggle free, but Royal was holding him tightly. For a moment it looked like the match was going to go to Royal very quickly.

Then George Cannon stepped in. He climbed through the ropes and dragged Royal off of his wrestler. Nelson was quite shocked by this surprise attack and was momentarily unable to defend himself. Cannon seized this oppor-

tunity—he dragged Royal out of the ring and onto the concrete floor.

At this point, Royal expected the referee to disqualify Eric because of Cannon's interference. The referee said nothing. Seeing that he was getting away with his tactics, Cannon took out the rope in his pocket and began to strangle Nelson. Then the referee stopped the action, just barely noting what was happening.

Royal tried to climb back inside the ring, but Eric came over and clubbed Nelson over the head with his huge bone. Royal reeled backwards to the floor. The referee still said nothing.

Somehow, Nelson was able to recover his stance. He quickly climbed back inside, determined now to put an end to the brutal tactics of Eric the Red and George Cannon. With renewed energy, he grabbed Eric and started punching him with a powerful right hook. Eric screamed in agony. Cannon started climbing back over the ropes. Royal increased the intensity of the punches.

Then Nelson made a very bad mistake. He tried to butt Eric's stomach with his head. Eric knocked his opponent over the head with the bone again. Then he picked up the stunned Royal and swung him high in the air.

As Royal was coming down, he grabbed one of Eric's legs and sent the giant grappler sprawling to the floor. This infuriated Eric so much, he took out his bone and started repeatedly clubbing Nelson over the head and in the stomach. Then the referee stepped in and finally disqualified Eric the Red.

Cannon screamed at the referee, but nothing could change the decision. The duo of George Cannon and Eric the Red stormed out of the arena and refused to talk to anyone.

After he had recovered from the match, Nelson talked with reporters. "This match was unfair. Not only did Eric the Red use illegal tactics, but Cannon interfered for him. All I know is that I'm lucky to be alive."

Royal went on to say he would be willing to wrestle Eric again, but this time he wants two rules enforced: Eric not be allowed to have the bone with him, and George Cannon stay as far from the arena as possible. "If I am going to grapple with someone by myself, it is only fair he wrestles alone too!"

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ANDRE THE GIANT

(Continued from Page 35)



accusations.

For some reason known only to Ladd, he taunted Rocca mercilessly as the referee tried to do his job. It was a reprehensible display. All Rocca did was angrily scold Ladd for illegal maneuvers.

The crowd was cheering so wildly that no one quite heard the insult which finally set Antonino off. But before anyone knew what happened, Rocca dropkicked Ladd into the ropes! Rocca, the originator of this maneuver, proved he had lost none of his skill. The force of the dropkick sent Ernie flying!

Once he was caught in the ropes, Ladd was helpless to defend himself against Antonino's punches. Again and again, while the crowd's cheers spurred him on, Rocca slammed his

tormentor with furious blows. Only when Ladd lay limp, battered and senseless did Antonino cease his massacre.

Leaving Ladd caught in the ropes, looking like a trophy on a wall, Rocca stormed out of the arena. Andre, as astonished as anyone by what had happened, quickly followed. That left only the special police to aid the stricken Ladd. They did their job.

There was plenty of time for reporters to think up questions. Ernie took a long time leaving the dressing room. When he finally did come out, it was a still woozy athlete who met the press.

"You all saw what happened," Ladd said softly but angrily. "I was close to finishing off Andre the



A handshake between Rocca and Andre before the match (left, opposite page) takes on very sinister implications after Rocca attacks Ladd during the match (above). Ladd now claims Rocca saved Andre from defeat.

Giant. I had him set up perfectly. He was vulnerable and I was ready. Within an instant, Andre would have been my victim.

"Only another professional wrestler could see how much trouble Andre was in. Rocca knew, though. He saw Andre was finished. So he dropkicked me to save that freakish Frenchman's neck! He was protecting Andre the Giant!

"There's only one reason why this could happen. Rocca is paid by someone to protect Andre. Maybe it's Andre himself, maybe it's the promoters. I don't know. All I know is that Rocca saved Andre.

"What I'd really like to know is how much money it takes to buy off Antonino Rocca. It can't be much, probably less than it costs for a plain pizza!"

Most reporters dismissed Ladd's claim. However, we asked a panel of professional wrestlers to view the film. Each one agreed Rocca had intervened at the exact moment when Andre was dangerously vulnerable. Only 40% of those asked, however, were willing to say Ernie could have finished Andre off at that time.

Was it a coincidence that Rocca's temper exploded at the precise moment Andre was in danger of being beaten? Or is Ernie Ladd right in his claims? This could turn out to be the most horrible scandal in wrestling history! ☐

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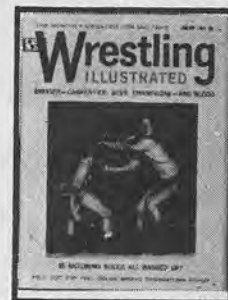
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AN UNBEATABLE DUO

(Continued from Page 27)



Chris Tolos is trapped in a bearhug by Beast, only to be kicked free by partner Don Kent. The new tag team felt they had to win their first major battle and did everything in their power to insure their victory—even if they cheated!

the intricacies of tag team wrestling. Ideas he had saved but been unable to use were revealed. Listening to his excited voice, one could not help but sympathize with his plight.

Reading Kent's statements in a local newspaper, Chris Tolos could do more than sympathize. Don was saying what Chris always felt, as if he had been interviewed instead of Don. No sooner had he finished the article than Chris picked up the telephone. In less than a minute after reading his statements, Chris was talking to Kent.

The two men instantly became friends. Chris related how he felt his best years were when he teamed with his brother John. He reached his greatest fame and felt most alive in tag team wrestling. Don understood exactly what he meant.

As the two men compared notes and traded ideas, they grew more and more excited. It is not known which man suggested they form a tag team, but he was immediately taken up on the offer. A quick call to the promoter cemented the partnership.

Watching Tolos and Kent during their first day together in the gym

was reminiscent of colts frolicking in a field on the first day of spring. Ideas and maneuvers they hadn't done in years were suddenly being attempted. They didn't realize most other action stopped and all those present were staring at them. They were far too absorbed in experimenting with their craft to notice anyone else.

They were still there an hour after the gymnasium officially closed. The owner didn't have the heart to throw them out. Something extraordinary was happening and wrestling people never dare interfere at these times. They know only too well how rare it is to capture the magic which is this sport at its best.

When the team finally had its first match, many of the spectators were professional wrestlers. Many had traveled over 1,000 miles to see this bout. The grapevine had been buzzing about the team since that first day in the gym.

From the opening bell, nobody but the new team's opponents were disappointed. Beast and El Bassilo were the two determined to stop all this talk about Chris and Don. Instead, they revealed how remarkably well Chris and Don work together.

After the match, Tolos and Kent went back to the dressing room to celebrate and discuss the match. Listening to them, one couldn't help but feel this was the first chapter in one of tag team wrestling's greatest histories. □

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MOONDOG MAYNE

(Continued from Page 33)

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Above: Grabbing a pillow from a ringside chair, Mayne tries to smother his hated opponent. He almost succeeded! Below: No one is better than Mayne at whipping an opponent across the mat and into a ringpost!



another match, the referee might have been more lenient. But the unpredictability of Mayne and the cruelty of his foes were two things the referee didn't think should be given free reign any longer.

Pedro just shook his head in wonder at what happened. He had just witnessed an astonishing display of wrestling ability and courage. Moondog Mayne had just risked his entire career to prove his sincerity to the fans. He could have

been crippled trying to convince the crowd he had truly deserted his former friends.

Back in the dressing room, Moondog perched himself happily on a training table and answered questions. Every so often, overcome with delight at his accomplishments, he let out an eerie howl of joy. In between the screams of pleasure, Moondog answered questions. The first was why he was willing to sacrifice his career to please fans he had hated for so long.

"I like to hear cheers," he stated happily, "and I want the world to love me. I want people to look at me on the street and kiss my hand. I want babies named after me. We may even have a Moondog in the White House someday!

"The only way I can convince fans I've changed is to take great risks. They'll see I'll come close to death to win their approval. And when they see that, they'll believe me.

"There'll be statues of me in parks, ticker tape parades through the biggest cities. I'll be the most admired person in the world."

What about Moondog's new plans for convincing fans?

With a twinkle in his eye, Moondog replied, "Wait and see, my friends, wait and see. I am planning something now which will make me the most famous person in the United States. Wait and see." □

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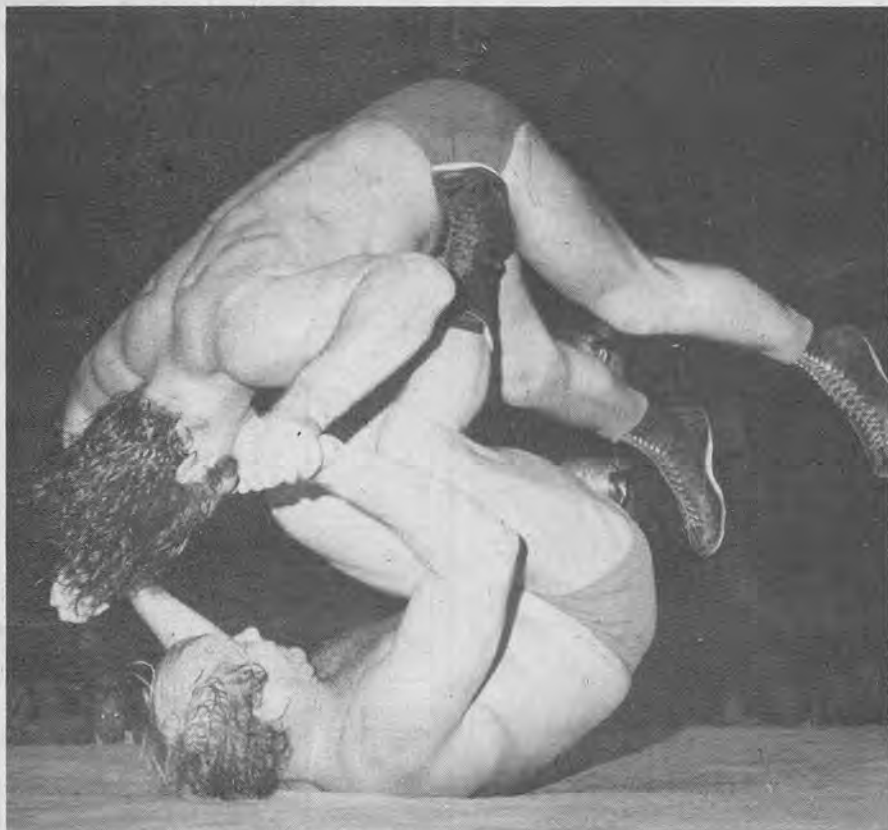
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WRESTLING CAPITALS

(Continued from Page 10)



Above: Dory Funk Jr. and Jack Brisco wrestle to a draw in a recent match. They'll meet again soon. Below: Bruiser threatens The Legionnaires as the defeated pair retreats.



Brisco. The two great grapplers wrestled to a draw, and a rematch is expected soon. Funk gave Brisco a very difficult time, and Jack's championship is definitely at stake.

ILLINOIS NEWS

by Sam LaMantia

The International Amphitheatre in Chicago was packed to capacity as fans from all over the midwest flocked to see the long-awaited match between Bruiser and Crusher and The Legionnaires.

In their first title defense since winning the tag team belts from Bockwinkle and Stevens, Crusher and Bruiser proved their winning the championship was no fluke.

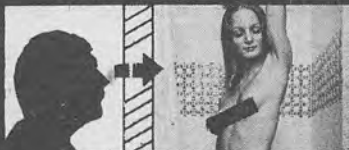
The match started with Bruiser smashing Soldier LeBoeuf around the ring. In an amazing display of strength, Bruiser sent LeBoeuf flying through the air several times, with Soldier just barely able to reach his partner for a tag.

Crusher took over for his partner and soon gave Jacques Goulet a beating he would not soon forget. LeBoeuf ran in to aid his partner, the two Legionnaires started pounding on Crusher. The referee stepped in and disqualified LeBoeuf and Goulet. □

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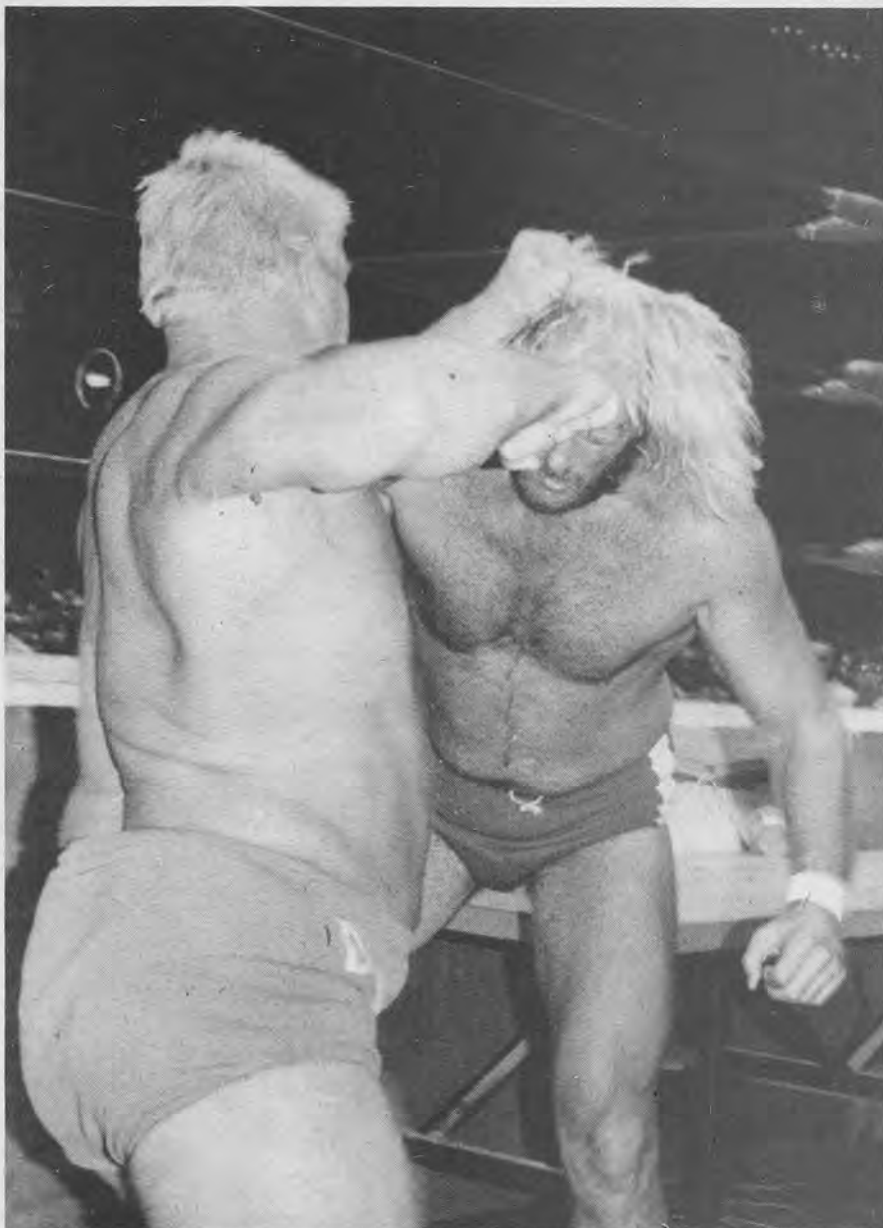


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BLOODY SWEEP

(Continued from Page 45)



Bruiser grabs Jacques Goulet by the hair so he can hold his weak and battered victim steady as he smashes punch after punch into Goulet's face. That they're outside the ring doesn't stop Bruiser!

about it. People had decided this was a very important match.

One didn't have to know about the rumors to discover how important this match was to the fans. The cheers greeting Bruiser and Crusher's entrance told the story. The crowd wanted the challengers to know how much it wanted to see the W.W.A. tag team championship change hands.

The intensity with which they despised The Legionnaires became apparent at the boos greeting the champions. For many, The Legionnaires wearing champion-

ship belts was the grossest insult to an internationally respected title. Crusher and Bruiser were saviors to the dignity of the W.W.A. tag team championships.

The bout had barely begun when Jacques Goulet and Soldier LeBoeuf, The Legionnaires, showed how they became champions. Realizing Crusher and Bruiser were perhaps their most awesome foes to date, the champions immediately began to use illegal tactics and doubleteam Crusher.

However, Crusher does not enjoy his great reputation without reason.

This magnificent athlete battled his way out of trouble and tagged Bruiser. An enraged Bruiser is more dangerous than an enraged bull—and it was an outraged Bruiser who attacked Soldier LeBoeuf.

Goulet saw his partner being smashed across the canvas and leaped to his defense. From then on it was a brawl.

Half an hour later the match was tied at one fall apiece. Every wrestler but Bruiser sported ugly gashes across his face. The last fall would determine the W.W.A. championship.

Goulet came out for the third fall armed with a broomstick. He intended to bludgeon Bruiser into submission. However, it is never that easy to do anything against Bruiser.

The mat star dove at his armed foe and sent Jacques sprawling. The broom skittered across the canvas. Bruiser leaped on it. Picking up the weapon, he went after Goulet. In an instant, he was employing the broomstick to choke the hapless Legionnaire.

Jacques desperately writhed against the restraint of the stick as Bruiser increased the pressure. LeBoeuf tried to come in and save his partner, but Crusher was right there to stop him.

When Bruiser knew Goulet could resist no more, he hurled the stick away and finished the match. The harried referee, delighted at the chance of ending this wild melee, immediately gave the belts to Crusher and Bruiser. He didn't care if a huge foreign object had been employed by anyone. All that mattered was the match was over and the W.W.A. championship had changed hands.

The Legionnaires were outraged of course. They claimed *somebody* should be disqualified for the broom (on a disqualification, the title can't change hands no matter who the guilty party). To ignore the broom is absurd, they contend.

"The broom wasn't used for a long enough time to warrant disqualification," the referee said after the match. "Bruiser threw it away when I instructed him to do so. Bruiser and Crusher are the new W.W.A. tag team champions!"

The referee's decision will stand despite The Legionnaires' official protest. And the fans couldn't be happier! □

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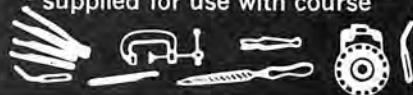
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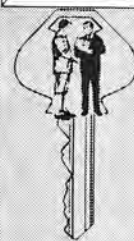
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